

**Minutes of Regional Health Forum West held on Tuesday,
25th November, 2014 at 1.00pm in Room 1, Education Centre,
HSE Offices, Merlin Park, Galway**

Miontuairiscí Cruinnithe Chinn Bhliana an Fhóraitm Réigiúnach Sláinte, a tionóladh ar an Mháirt 25, Samhain
2014 ag 1.00 .i.n, i Seomra 1 an tIonad Oideachais,
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Páirc Mheirlinne, Gaillimh

Chairperson: Cllr Tom McNamara

Members Present	Apologies	Absent
Cllr Finola Armstrong-McGuire	Cllr Lisa Chambers	Cllr Ciaran Brogan
Cllr Tim Broderick	Cllr Michael Kilcoyne	Cllr Michael Creaton
Cllr Pat Burke	Cllr Seamus O'Boyle	Cllr Aidan Donohue
Cllr Maria Byrne	Cllr Terry O'Flaherty	Cllr Henry Kenny
Cllr John Carroll		
Cllr Michael Collins		
Cllr Pádraig Conneely		
Cllr Catherine Connolly		
Cllr Gerry Crawford		
Cllr Ger Darcy		
Cllr David Doran		
Cllr Caillian Ellis		
Cllr Michael Finnerty		
Cllr Francis Foley		
Cllr Felim Gurn		
Cllr Mary Hoade		
Cllr Michael Hourigan		
Cllr Paddy Kilduff		
Cllr Donagh Killilea		
Cllr Michael McBride		
Cllr Malachy McCreesh		
Cllr Bernard McGuinness		
Cllr Gerry McMonagle		
Cllr Brendan Mulroy		
Cllr Ann Norton		
Cllr Rosaleen O'Grady		
Cllr. P.J. Ryan		
Cllr Jerome Scanlan		
Cllr Eamon Scanlon		
Cllr Brigid Teefy		
Cllr Tony Ward		

In attendance:

Maurice Power, A/Chief Executive Officer, Saolta University Health Care Group
Tony Canavan, Chief Operations Officer, Saolta University Health Care Group

Noreen Spillane, A/Chief Executive Officer, UL Hospitals
Damien McCallion, Area Manager, Sligo/Leitrim PCCC.
Paudie O’Riordan, Area Operations Manager, National Ambulance Services
Chris Rudland, Regional Manager, Consumer Affairs.
Marian Cavanagh, Consumer Affairs.
Norah Owens, Consumer Affairs.

496/54/14 Minutes of previous meeting 23rd September, 2014

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 23rd September, 2014 were proposed by Cllr David Doran, seconded by Cllr. Gerry McMonagle.

497/55/14 Matters Arising:

Cllr. C Connolly requested an update on the bus service to St. Francis Home and if this service has been re-instated on a permanent basis.

Action: C Cunningham to revert to Cllr Connolly to confirm if the re-instating of transport for clients travelling to St Francis Home, Newcastle was on a permanent basis.

Cllr C Connolly – Requires an update from the Executive with regard to bed occupancy and staffing in Aras MacDara

Action: C Cunningham to revert to Cllr Connolly with an update in relation to beds and staffing at Aras MacDara.

Cllr. C Connolly requested an update on the recommendations following Savita Halappanavar case.

T Canavan informed the members that this report would be published and brought to the Board’s Public Board meeting on 4th December.

498/54/14 Chairman’s Address:

Cllr Tom McNamara welcomed Maurice Power, Acting CEO Saolta University Health Care Group and Damien McCallion, Area Manager, Sligo/Leitrim to the meeting.

The Chairman passed his sympathies on behalf of the members of the Regional Health Forum to Cllr Michael Kilcoyne and his family on the death of his mother, Mary.

The Chairman informed the Forum of the new appointment of Ms. Collette Cowan as CEO to the UL Hospital Group. He also congratulated Ms. Noreen Spillane on her new appointment as Chief Operating Officer, UL Hospital Group and thanked Noreen for her help and support during her period as Acting Chief Executive Officer.

Cllr Michael Hourigan requested the new CEO to meet with the Councillors of Clare, Limerick & North Tipperary.

Action: CEO UL Hospital Group to organise a meeting with the Councillors.

Cllr Michael Hourigan welcomed the new councillor, Cllr. Maria Byrne, Limerick City & County Council who replaced Cllr Gerald Mitchell who recently resigned his post.

Cllr Mary Hoade, on behalf of the Regional Health Forum wished Bill Maher well in his new job and thanked him for his support of the Forum over the last few years. Cllr Rosaleen O'Grady also wanted to be associated with Cllr Hoade's sentiments.

Cllr P Conneely questioned why the West region was the only area that had to advertise for a CEO and queried when the post would be filled.

2015 Schedule of Meetings of Regional Health Forum & Committees

The schedule was approved by all members.

Wi-Fi

Cllr. McNamara informed the meeting that Wi-Fi was available for the purpose of the meeting.

499/54/14 Proposed Amendments to Standing Orders:

The amendments to the Standing Orders were proposed by Cllr. Mary Hoade and seconded by Councillor Michael Hourigan.

Action: Amended Standing Orders will be circulated to all members following the meeting.

500/54/14 Questions:

W54Q1469 – Cllr P Conneely , Imaging Centre lease, Merlin Park

Supplementary Question: Will the new lease be for another 10 year term?

T. Canavan confirmed the new lease will be for another 10 year term and he will inform the members of the outcome once the process is complete.

W54Q1471 – Cllr P Conneely , Cost of rebranding?

Action: T Canavan to revert to Cllr. Conneely with a copy of the winning tender for the purpose of the re-branding of the West/North West Hospital Group.

W54Q1473 & Q1474 – Cllr F Gurn & Cllr D Doran, Ambulance Services

Action: P O'Riordan to revert to all members following the results of a Capacity Review currently underway.

W54Q1478 – Cllr D Killilea, Grove Tuam

Supplementary Question: Requested what service will be going inside the building of the Grove Hospital and the confirmation of the timeframe of this re-opening.

Action: C Cunningham to revert to Cllr D Killilea with an update.

W54Q1479– Cllr R O'Grady, Mammography Services at Sligo Regional Hospital

Cllr R O'Grady informed the meeting this was a pre election promise and requested a full update on the issue.

Action: T Canavan agreed to convene a meeting in December with the Sligo group to see what everybody wants to achieve.

W54Q1480– Cllr R O'Grady, Mammography Machine at Sligo Regional Hospital

Action: T Canavan to follow up with NCCP for an update on a new mammography machine for Sligo Regional Hospital and revert to Cllr. R O'Grady.

W54Q1481– Cllr R O’Grady, Govt Policy re the National Neuro/Rehabilitation Strategy?

Action: RHF Office to follow up the response from the National Director of Acute Services regarding the Government policy regarding the National neuro/rehabilitation strategy.

W54Q1483– Cllr C Connolly, New 75 bed hospital in GUH

Supplementary Question: requested a copy of the Admissions Policy for GUH

Action: T Canavan agreed to send a copy of this policy to Cllr. Connolly.

W54Q1484 - Cllr C Connolly, Breast check appointments in Galway City & County

Action: RHF Office to follow up the response regarding the uptake of this free service in Galway city & county from BreastCheck who are responsible for the service.

W54Q1486 - Cllr C Connolly, PHN in Iris Oirr

Supplementary Question: Cllr Connolly queried why this post is not being filled on a full time permanent basis as was the previous arrangement on the island.

Action: C Cunningham to revert to Cllr Connolly and confirm why this post is being filled on a part-time basis only.

W54Q1487 - Cllr M Hoade, Loughrea Community Workshop

Action: C Cunningham to revert to Cllr Hoade and confirm why the clients of Loughrea Community Workshop were not informed of their permanent move from Bride Street to St. Brendan’s Home, Loughrea

W54Q1491 – Cllr G McMonagle – Flooding at Letterkenny General Hospital

Action: The Executive to follow up with the Minister on the Motion from the previous meeting.

W54Q1494 – Cllr T McNamara – Security Staff providing supervision in Acute Psych Units

Action: D McCallion/C Cunningham to revert to Cllr T McNamara with an update of the specialised units following an evaluation in respect of the timeframe of when it may open or where it may be located for the West.

501/54/14 Motions

M54M298– Cllr M Kilcoyne – Medical Cards

This motion was deferred to the next Regional Health Forum meeting.

M54M299– Cllr P Kilduff – Stabilising Unit for Roscommon Hospital

This motion was proposed by Cllr P Kilduff and seconded by Cllr. T Ward.

T Canavan informed the members that Roscommon Hospital – a Model 2 Hospital does not provide for a Stabilising Unit and that there was no plans to change this.

M54M300– Cllr D Killilea – Moving UHG Medical Campus to Merlin

This motion was proposed by Cllr D Killilea and seconded by Cllr. C Connolly. The Motion was adopted.

The Forum members proposed a motion to the Executive to prepare a feasibility study on the move of the entire medical campus from UHG to Merlin Park.

Action: The Executive to consider the motion

M54M301– Cllr R O’Grady – Acquired Brain Injury

This motion was proposed by Cllr R O’Grady and seconded by Cllr. T McNamara. The Motion was adopted.

Action: This topic is to be added to the list of presentations for a RHF Committee meeting.

M54M302– Cllr C Connolly – Public Nursing Home beds – Galway City & County

Action: *The Executive to add this topic to the list of presentations for a RHF Committee meeting and deliver to the members as a matter of urgency.*

This Motion was proposed by Cllr C Connolly and seconded by Cllr M Hoade

M54M303– Cllr G McMonagle – Consultant Paediatric Rheumatologist - LGH

This motion was proposed by Cllr G McMonagle and seconded by Cllr. B McGuinness. This motion was adopted.

Action: Due to the deficit of Rheumatology staff in the West, T Canavan agreed to investigate the possibility of cross border Rheumatology services for Letterkenny General Hospital and revert to the RHF members with the possible options.

502/53/14 Any Other Business:

The next **Regional Health Forum Committee meeting** is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 16th December, 2014 at 1pm in Galway

The next Regional Health Forum meeting will take place on Tuesday, 24th February, 2015 at 2pm in Galway.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach/Chairman

Adopted at the Regional Health Forum West meeting