

**Minutes of Regional Health Forum West held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February  
2014 at 2.00pm in Room 1, Education Centre,  
HSE Offices, Merlin Park, Galway**

Miontuairiscí Cruinnithe Chinn Bhliana an Fhórait Réigiúnach Sláinte, a tionóladh ar an Mháirt, 25 Feabhra  
2014 ag 2.00 .i.n, i Seomra 1 an tIonad Oideachais,  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Páirc Mheirlinne, Gaillimh

**Chairperson**

Clr Pádraig Conneely

**Members Present**

Clr Liam Blaney

Clr Tim Broderick

Clr Ciaran Brogan

Clr Pat Burke

Clr John Carroll

Clr Catherine Connolly

Clr Tom Connolly

Clr Shaun Cunniffe

Clr David Cryan

Clr Ger Fahy

Clr Laurence Fallon

Clr Mary Hoade

Clr Michael Hourigan

Clr Gordon Hughes

Clr John Kennedy

Clr Sean MacManus

Clr Michael McBride

Clr Sean McGowan

Clr John 'Rocky' McGrath

Clr Bernard McGuinness

Clr Paula McNamara

Clr Tom McNamara

Clr Brian Meaney

Clr Tony Mulqueen

Clr Austin Francis O'Malley

Clr Annie May Reape

Clr Damien Riedy

Clr Tony Ward

Clr Seamus Weir

**Apologies**

Clr Rose Brennan

Clr Joe Leddin

Clr Aoiffe McLoughlin

Clr Michael Finnerty

**Absent**

Clr Michael Connolly

Clr Michael Crowe

Clr Frank McBrearty Jr

Clr Gerry Reynolds

Clr Kevin Sheahan

**In attendance**

Gerry O'Neill, Regional Director of Performance & Integration

Tony Canavan, Chief Operations Officer, West North West Hospital Group

Ann Doherty, Chief Executive Officer, University Hospitals Limerick

Bill Maher, Chief Executive Officer, West North West Hospital Group

Liam Minihan, Asst National Director, Finance

Shirley Murphy, Consumer Affairs

Paudie O'Riordan, Area Operations Manager, National Ambulance Service

Francis Rogers, Asst National Director, Human Resources

Chris Rudland, Regional Manager, Consumer Affairs

**456/49/14 Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2013 were proposed by Clr John Carroll, seconded by Clr. Bernard McGuinness and adopted.

## **457/49/14 Matters Arising**

### **Physiotherapy Services**

Clr Catherine Connolly highlighted that she has yet to receive a response from Catherine Cunningham, to her supplementary query at the last Forum meeting in November, regarding physiotherapy services in Galway. She had queried how the HSE propose dealing with the waiting list for physiotherapy in Galway and to confirm if an application has been made for a new physiotherapist to deal with the list.

**Agreed:** A request will issue to C Cunningham to respond directly to Clr Connolly as soon as possible.

### **Community and Mental Health Services Review**

Clr Catherine Connolly requested an update on the status of the Review of Mental Health Services. RDPI advised that completion of the review is imminent.

### **Consultant Radiologist, Nenagh Hospital**

Clr John Carroll requested an update on the recruitment of the Consultant Radiologist for Nenagh Hospital.

Ann Doherty confirmed that the recruitment process is in motion and is with the Public Appointments Service.

## **458/49/14 Chairman's Business**

### **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rose Brennan, Michael Finnerty, Joe Leddin and Aoiffe McLoughlin.

### **Welcome**

The Chairperson welcomed members of the public in attendance and new member Clr David Cryan who replaces recently deceased member Clr Gerry Murray, RIP.

### **Sympathies**

The Chairperson expressed sympathy to the families of Cllrs Gerry Murray and Richard Butler, former long standing members of the Regional Health Forum. May they Rest in Peace.

The Chairperson also expressed his sympathy with Clr Mary Hoade on the death of her Mother, Mrs Therese Hoade RIP.

### **Next Meetings**

The next **Regional Health Forum** meeting will take place on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2014.

The next Regional Health Forum **Committee** meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2014 in Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim.

## **459/49/14 Questions**

### **W49Q1277 - Clr Seamus Weir, ED MGH**

Clr Weir felt the response he received did not answer the question he raised around retention of '24hr' Emergency Department services at Mayo General Hospital?

T Canavan advised that a review of hospital services in the West has just commenced which may / may not result in changes to services delivered, however, there are no plans to close ED services in MGH.

#### **W49Q1324 - Cllr Liam Blaney, Procurement Policy, Letterkenny Hospital**

Cllr Blaney queried if a copy of the Internal Audit report, as mentioned in the response to his question, is available?

Cllr Blaney was advised that Internal Audit reports are FOI-able six months after they are completed and released to service areas. B Maher confirmed that he has only recently received the Audit Report and that he is looking for the same reassurances as the Cllr and to note that LGH became part of the WNWGH in 2013.

B Maher advised Cllr Blaney that he would be happy to release whatever information he can on foot of a Freedom of Information request.

#### **W49Q1325 - Cllr Liam Blaney, Procurement Policy, Digger at LGH**

Cllr Blaney queried why seven months since the flooding incident at Letterkenny General Hospital the digger installed at the site remains there without having to go through a procurement process? And in relation to the relocation of some OPD services to Scally Place, Letterkenny, the Cllr queried where the tender for this work was advertised?

B Maher advised members that the flood at LGH was an emergency situation where appropriate measures were taken at short notice. As outlined in the Flood Management Strategy there could potentially remain a risk should the digger be removed.

*Agreed: B Maher advised that he is happy to have a look at procurement for the digger at LGH, from this point onwards.*

*Agreed: B Maher agreed to provide further information to Cllr Blaney on where tendering for the relocation of services was advertised.*

#### **W49Q1280 - Cllr Brian Meaney, Statistical Data**

Cllr Meaney stated that Ireland appears to be poor in relation to gathering statistics, in particular at local level. He felt that reward systems are in place for initiatives such as Tidy Towns and that the HSE should give consideration to this type of initiative to deal with high obesity levels in towns/cities across the country.

*Agreed: Members agreed to receive a presentation at the next Forum Committee from Ms Adrienne Lynam, National Task Force on Obesity.*

#### **W49Q1281 - Cllr Brian Meaney – Intervention Services for Children**

The response to Cllr Meaney's question included an assurance from B Gloster that he would endeavour to have a response to the Cllr by 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Cllr Meaney highlighted a response to a PQ received previously by Deputy Colm Keaveney regarding Early Intervention Teams. The response showed that the Mid West has four times the caseload as other areas. He was happy to await the further response from B Gloster.

#### **W49Q1283 - Cllr Brian Meaney – Repeat Visit, ED, MW**

*Agreed: RDPI agreed to follow up with the National Contracts Office and request a response to issue to Cllr Meaney as soon as possible.*

#### **W49Q1284 - Cllr Paula McNamara – Westdoc, Roscommon Town**

Cllr McNamara highlighted that access to the Westdoc services at the Primary Care Centre in Roscommon Town remained difficult; when she checked last night the door remained locked and there was no

doorbell installed. She urged that this service requires designated premises and welcomed any progress in relocating Westdoc services to the Sacred Heart Hospital.

#### **W49Q1286 - Cllr Annie May Reape – Rheumatology Clinic, Mayo General Hospital**

Cllr Reape stated she was unhappy with the response received and highlighted the lengthy delays in securing a Rheumatology Clinic for Mayo. She felt that this matter is no further than it was two years ago. T Canavan advised that the WNWHG are looking at the manpower available across the region.

*Agreed: Cllr Reape will write directly to T Canavan to receive more details around this service for Mayo.*

#### **W49Q1287 - Cllr Annie May Reape – Discretionary Medical Cards**

Cllr Reape queried why no response was available to her question.

RDPI confirmed that a response was requested from PCRS and that this function was not in the jurisdiction of the RDPI Office. He also confirmed that he raised the members concerns around communications with PCRS, with John Hennessy.

*Agreed: RDPI will request PCRS to provide Cllr Reape with a response to her question.*

#### **W49Q1289 - Cllr Tim Broderick – Smoking Inspections**

Cllr Broderick queried if it is normal practice for a Senior EHO(s) to visit a pub at 8.30pm on a Friday night to inspect a smoking area of a Public House? He confirmed that any publican would be quite happy to open their premises during the working day to allow for these types of inspections. The Cllr also queried why there are still public ashtrays on the grounds of Merlin Park Campus when it is smokefree campus? RDPI confirmed that EHOs are fully within their remit to inspect premises at any time, whether by prior appointment or not. He advised that they are mandated by statute to do so. He confirmed that 11 out of the 12 health service sites are now smokefree, with Mayo General Hospital due to commence on 5<sup>th</sup> March.

Cllr Broderick also raised a query about a recent article regarding Smoking Cessation training for staff. The article suggested that members of staff who are smokers were trained/provided with training to stop smoking.

RDPI confirmed that this article was incorrect. Health Promotion is everyone's responsibility and this training was provided to 370 health service staff to support service users to cease smoking.

*Agreed: It was agreed that the public ashtray in Merlin Park campus will be removed.*

#### **W49Q1290 - Cllr Tim Broderick – Public Relations/HSE**

Cllr Broderick advised that he was informed that during the transfer of 22 beds from St Bridget's Ballinasloe, Setanta Communications contacted some local media stations directly, on behalf of the HSE. The response received to the question he raised today states that only WNWHG engage with Setanta Communications, therefore who employed Setanta to engage with matters relating to Mental Health Services?

RDPI confirmed that no member of staff from his office, or on behalf of his office, engaged or employed Setanta Communications for any public relations/communications work.

*Agreed: Further clarification will issue to Cllr Broderick on this matter.*

#### **W49Q1291 - Cllr Tim Broderick – Psychiatric Services, ED GUH**

Cllr Broderick queried why patients presenting with psychiatric issues should have to go through ED and how this could be viewed as an enhanced service.

RDPI advised that it is a universal policy that all patients presenting to a hospital in an emergency situation, if not directly referred by a GP, would have to be assessed medically in the first instance.

#### **W49Q1292 - Cllr Laurence Fallon – Sacred Heart Hospital Roscommon**

Cllr Fallon raised concerns about the response received as he felt it suggested there may be some downgrading of Sacred Heart Hospital in the future.

RDPI confirmed that from his point of view there is no risk to any long stays beds at Sacred Heart Hospital.

*Agreed: Cllr Fallon will receive further written correspondence from Catherine Cunningham confirming refurbishment plans and retention of the present size of the hospital.*

#### **W49Q1293 - Cllr Laurence Fallon – Secure Psychiatric Facility, HSE West**

RDPI advised that he understands that the provision of a secure psychiatric facility in the West remains in contemplation. He advised that this is a matter for national consideration and he is not privy to any decisions or timelines. He explained that with the new National Directorates that members might find it more satisfactory to hear directly from the National Director of Mental Health and his Team.

*Agreed: RDPI agreed to request the attendance of Mental Health Services National at a future Forum Committee.*

#### **W49Q1294 - Cllr Laurence Fallon – Ambulance Service Roscommon**

Cllr Fallon queried if it is normal or safe practice for patients at UCH to be transferred by taxi to Merlin Park for an MRI? He also referred to previous concerns he raised around average response times for ambulances and the lack of ability to capture response times per county.

P O’Riordan again highlighted that the most important factor for ambulance services is the outcome for the patient. He advised that the ambulance services do not have the ability to capture average response times for ambulances for local areas. The spread and deployment of ambulances is a huge challenge for the West, in particular from the N17 towards Tuam & Sligo, with dispatches out to Mulranney, Achill and more remote areas like Ballaghderreen. Ambulances are not necessarily assigned to particular stations, they can be moved around.

At the time the decision was made to build Tuam and Mulranney Ambulance Bases, the business case presented and approved, included the capital allocation required to build the base, the staffing and revenue associated to staff the bases. Unfortunately in the present environment we have been unable to get approval for staff.

#### **W49Q1295 - Cllr Laurence Fallon – ED Portiuncula**

Cllr Fallon queried when ‘time of registration’ starts, is it when seen by a Consultant?

T Canavan confirmed that time of registration is effectively point of entry at the front of desk of the ED.

Portiuncula Hospital has done extremely well with regard to their length of time waiting target and T Canavan is confident this will improve even further.

#### **W49Q1296 - Cllr Tony Ward – Stroke – Co Roscommon**

Cllr Ward advised that he has made a case for some years for RCH to have an Acute Stroke Unit in Roscommon. He is concerned that the information he sought is not readily available. Cllr Ward acknowledged that since the closure of ED at Roscommon the hospital can provide a series of alternative procedures, however, even though any individual from 18-90+ years can suffer from stroke, the fact is Roscommon County has a higher older population than any other county in Ireland.

T Canavan confirmed that it is the intention of WNWHG to provide a response to the Cllr's question, however, some clarification on the question is required. Each hospital site can look at their discharges, for those patients with Roscommon addresses and who had a primary diagnosis of suffering from a Stroke.

**Agreed:** A response will issue to Cllr Ward as soon as possible.

#### **W49Q1297 - Cllr Tony Ward – Home Care Packages**

Cllr Ward highlighted that in terms of age profile Roscommon County has the oldest population. Home Help Hours continue to be cut and he is most concerned for those with lack of mobility or no mobility, who are only receiving ¾ hrs home care per day. His fear is that the Government will reduce funding to Home Care Packages.

RDPI confirmed that the provision of Home Care Packages has increased. The real issue is around the needs of those service users. Home Care needs to be consistent and efficient. €20m has been set aside for Home Care Services.

#### **W49Q1299 - Cllr Tony Ward – Occupational Therapy Waiting List for Children**

Cllr Ward highlighted that he has raised this matter over the last few years. 45 children waiting in Roscommon is too high. It is too late for some of these children by the time they are called. Early intervention is lacking.

RDPI confirmed that every effort is being made to reduce these waiting lists.

**Agreed:** RDPI will ask Catherine Cunningham to engage directly with Cllr Ward and provide him with further response to his query.

#### **W49Q1300 - Cllr Pdraig Conneely, Elective Procedures**

Cllr Conneely stated that it is regrettable that some elective inpatient procedures were deferred. He advised that he is aware of a case where someone fasted and was prepared to be admitted on four occasions but the procedure was cancelled on four occasions as there was no theatre available.

T Canavan confirmed that the 1158 elective procedures which were deferred were for some valid clinical reasons. At times the hospital does not have the capacity due to a high number of emergencies and elective procedures have to be deferred and that is regrettable. It is worth noting that of 38500 procedures in 2013, 1458 were deferred which is 3% of the total. That means 97% of patients were treated in a timely fashion. 991 failed to attend for a variety of reasons, however, each case impacts on resources and requires reassessment before rescheduling again.

#### **W49Q1301 - Cllr Pdraig Conneely, Private Health Insurance Claims**

Cllr Conneely queried how much is currently outstanding and who is the greatest offender?

T Canavan confirmed that the current total amount outstanding is €16m, the vast majority of which relates to the last six months.

As explained in the response issued, specific Consultants are not identified as per data protection guidelines.

**Agreed:** Further details on the breakdown on outstanding claims will be supplied to Cllr Conneely.

#### **W49Q1302 - Cllr Pdraig Conneely, Staffing**

Cllr Conneely stated that he had received a response to a previous similar query last year and why was the information not now available?

RDPI confirmed that there would be no potential for any information being provided by the HSE that could affect due process with any staffing issue.

#### **W49Q1303 - Cllr Pdraig Conneely, Car Park and Shop GUH**

Cllr Conneely requested the amount of income created from the GUH Car Park and Shop and also queried what that income is used for?

T Canavan confirmed that there is a tender process in place at present and therefore this information is commercially sensitive, however, once that process is completed he would have no problem sharing that information. He confirmed for the Cllr that the income generated goes back into the Hospital Group budget and not as a top up to Management's salaries as the Cllr suggested.

#### **W49Q1304 – Cllr Mary Hoade, Corrandulla Health Centre**

Cllr Hoade raised concerns that Corrandulla Health Centre has been closed since last August and requested a clear response on whether there is an intention by the HSE to reopen the centre at all? RDPI confirmed that the manager of the service, Catherine Cunningham is actively making representations to have this health centre re-opened. An application was made nationally last year, there have been changes to the system and structures of the services thus the decision maker on this matter has changed and this is frustrating the process. The plan to open the health centre has not changed.

*Agreed: RDPI will bring Cllr Hoade's concerns to C Cunningham's attention.*

#### **W49Q1305 – Cllr Mary Hoade, Orthodontist**

Cllr Hoade queried if patients on the waiting lists were dealt with in chronological order and queried if there were any individuals waiting longer than 3 years as she is aware of some particular cases which suggest same.

*Agreed: Cllr Hoade will provide details on the specific cases to T Canavan for examination.*

#### **W49Q1306 – Cllr Mary Hoade, ED UCH**

Cllr Hoade wished to acknowledge the hard work by staff at ED in UCH and recalled a presentation to members at a previous meeting from John O'Brien, ED Consultant. However, she felt there are still considerable trolley waits in ED. She queried what exactly are the plans for St Rita's Ward during construction of the 75 beds in the new Unit. She also highlighted an incident whereby a special needs adult remained on a trolley from a Thursday to the following Wednesday as there was no bed available. T Canavan thanked Cllr Hoade for her comments regarding ED Staff. January and February are always extremely busy months in ED and GUH has continually changed how it manages ED and admissions. The key issues for the hospital are capacity. A Cost Benefit Analysis is underway for submission to the National Capital Steering Group to replace the existing ED in GUH as the current ED is the smallest and the busiest in the country.

#### **W49Q1307 – Cllr Mary Hoade, Ambulance @ GUH**

Cllr Hoade advised that Tuam Town Council wrote to the HSE (GUH) with regard to Ambulance Services at GUH and associated timetable/scheduling, etc.

*Agreed: Correspondence received from Tuam Town Council will be followed up and responded to.*

#### **W49Q1309 – Cllr Shaun Cunniffe, Inpatient Psychiatric Unit, Ballinasloe**

Cllr Cunniffe queried the sense around leaving a state of the art unit in Ballinasloe vacant and relocating to GUH, where the current structure appears unsuitable and which requires future investment and

development. He also queried how can HSE stand over the Scoring Card System and what is the status of current Acute Bed Review, which was supposed to take 12 weeks to complete. Will this be the same as the East Mental Health Review?

Implementation on Vision for Change recommendations are going ahead. There are differing clinical opinions however the vast majority support the changes. The HSE are providing mental health services for catchment area that is Galway and Roscommon. This is a good new story and is an incredible enhancement for mental health services in the West, with 45 new jobs significant investment. There has been engagement nationally with Clinicians and the political system on this.

#### **W49Q1310 – Cllr Shaun Cunniffe, Children in State Care**

*Agreed: RDPI suggested to members that it might be useful for members to receive a presentation at a future Forum Committee meeting from Child and Family Services.*

#### **W49Q1311 – Cllr Shaun Cunniffe, Social Worker posts**

*Agreed: F Rogers agreed to provide further details on current vacancies to Cllr Cunniffe, as soon as possible.*

#### **W49Q1313 & 1314 – Cllr Michael McBride**

Cllr McBride queried the purpose of the staff survey recently completed. His concerns are around staff morale and he queried if the staff survey covered this issue, particularly for Letterkenny General Hospital?

B Maher confirmed that the Employee Engagement Survey was a group wide survey which was not specific to Donegal. This survey contained up to 60 questions on a range of issues. The Implementation Group to address the findings of this survey will present their first report to the CEO in March. B Maher confirmed that this survey was completed by an external company.

*Agreed: B Maher agreed that it would be useful to include specific questions regarding LGH and the flooding incident and is happy to address that over the next few months.*

Cllr McBride also highlighted that he asked specific questions at the previous Forum meeting regarding the hiring of a digger at the site of the flood at LGH and the associated costs involved and that he had not yet received a response. Cllr McBride suggested that the hiring of this digger has caused a lot of issues with morale at LGH.

*Agreed: B Maher confirmed again that the placing of the digger at the site was an emergency measure and agreed to respond to Cllr McBride's specific questions.*

#### **W49Q1316 – Cllr Tom McNamara, Security Costs, Psychiatric Unit Ennis**

Cllr McNamara raised concerns around the cost of hiring two security personnel at the Acute Psychiatric Unit Ennis. He queried how the HSE can stand over that when other services are suffering as a result. RDPI advised that he is not in a position to discuss individual patient cases and therefore could not comment on the matter.

#### **W49Q1317 – Cllr Tom McNamara, Psychiatric Intensive Care Facility, HSE West**

Cllr McNamara queried if there is there an identified site for the ICRU and also what does *Stage 2a* of the design process mean?

RDPI advised that initially this facility was going to be onsite in Merlin Park however plans for this are not confirmed and the timeframe involved is set by National Mental Health Services.



#### **W49Q1319 – Cllr Tom McNamara, Alzheimers Unit, St Joseph’s Ennis**

Cllr McNamara urged the HSE to open this unit and highlighted that the money spent on hiring security staff would cover some of the costs for opening this unit.

#### **W49Q1320 – Cllr Catherine Connolly, Aras Mhic Dara**

Cllr Connolly stated that the response to her question was not adequate and queried why the relevant manager, Catherine Cunningham was not at the meeting to answer the questions? She queried why beds remain empty and when were jobs advertised for Aras Mhic Dara?

RDPI advised that recruitment campaigns are ongoing.

F Rogers confirmed that there is a nursing panel constantly in place, however, it is difficult to recruit in certain areas.

**Agreed:** RDPI agreed to follow up with Catherine Cunningham and arrange for her to respond to Cllr Connolly.

**Agreed:** F Rogers will identify offers that were made and revert to Cllr Connolly.

#### **W49Q1322 – Cllr Catherine Connolly, Private Hospital - Referrals**

Cllr Connolly explained that she wished to receive a list of hospitals, the monies involved for each hospital and the number of patients involved?

**Agreed:** T Canavan will provide further details on the list of private hospitals used for referrals from Galway City over the past three years and the monies involved for each hospital and the number of patients involved.

#### **W49Q1323 – Cllr Catherine Connolly, Alcohol Addiction Counselling Service**

Cllr Connolly queried if there is just one Counsellor employed for addiction services in Galway City and County?

**Agreed:** It was agreed that the relevant manager, Catherine Cunningham, will be requested to attend the next meeting.

#### **W49Q1326 – Cllr John Carroll, ED UHL**

Cllr Carroll suggested that until there is a fit for purpose service in University Hospital Limerick, ED services should be reopened at Nenagh and Ennis.

A Doherty advised that there has been no ED service in Nenagh or Ennis since 2009. There is considerable work taking place within the hospital group to deal with ED challenges.

### **Extension of Time**

An extension of time was agreed to complete the Agenda.

### **460/49/14 Motions**

<b>W49M279</b>	<b>That agreements and contracts between the HSE and hospital doctors contain a condition requiring standard notice of time to quit.</b> <i>Cllr B Meaney proposed the Motion, it was seconded by Cllr Tom McNamara and adopted.</i> <b>Agreed:</b> F Rogers will examine this matter and respond to Cllr Meaney.
<b>W49M280</b>	<b>An immediate independent review of the flawed scoring card, which brought about the decision to close the 22 acute in patient psychiatric beds which serve the EGMHSA. While</b>

	<p><b>we await the results of the review, the 22 beds should be reinstated with immediate effect.</b>  <i>Cllr T Broderick proposed the Motion, it was seconded by Cllr Catherine Connolly and adopted</i>  <b>Agreed:</b> Request the National Advocacy Group who are arranging the Listening Meetings to include Ballinasloe, Tuam and Portumna as venues for their meetings.</p>
W49M281	<p><b>I propose that the next Regional Forum meeting or an emergency Forum meeting be held in Ballinasloe where members and HSE Staff can pay necessary attention to the plight of those in our community in need of psychiatric treatment.</b>  RDPI advised that this proposal is not within Standing Orders of the Regional Health Forum West, S12.6. A vote on this Motion was therefore not taken.</p>
W49M282	<p><b>That this Forum discuss the ambulance service in Inishowen, Co. Donegal giving a full explanation of the change from 'On Call' to the 'Roster System' and why this system is not adequate in emergencies; also the effect of 'turn-around times' at A&amp;E Departments on the Ambulance Service as well as current cross-border arrangements.</b>  <i>Cllr B McGuinness proposed the Motion, it was seconded by Cllr Michael McBride and adopted</i></p>
W49M283	<p><b>That this Health Forum once again urgently calls on the HSE West to review its decision to construct a 50 bedded Mental Health Unit on the Regional Hospital Site given the 155 green acre site in Merlin Park Hospital and further that in view of the serious concerns expressed to Health Forum Members and to TDs and Senators re the existing physical condition of the Psychiatric Unit in Galway and the concerns and recommendations of the Mental Health Commission in relation to the Unit that this Forum receive a full report on the physical condition of the building and on the implementation of the Mental Health Commission recommendations and that in the interim admissions to the 22 bedded unit in Ballinasloe recommence.</b>  <i>Cllr C Connolly proposed the Motion, it was seconded by Cllr Tim Broderick and adopted.</i></p>

### 461/49/14 Service Plan

Presentations on the Service/Operational plans did not take place as the meeting had now run overtime.

**Agreed:** After some discussion it was agreed that each local area will provide a briefing to Forum members on their area's Operational Plans for 2014, prior to the March Forum meeting.

### 462/49/13 Next meeting of the Regional Health Forum West

#### Next Meetings

The next **Regional Health Forum meeting** is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2014 at 2pm.

The next Regional Health Forum **Committee** meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April in Room 1, Education Centre, Merlin Park, Galway.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

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Cathaoirleach/Chairman

*Adopted at the Regional Health Forum West meeting 25<sup>th</sup> March 2014*