

**Minutes of Regional Health Forum West Meeting held on  
Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 at 2.00pm in Room 1, Education Centre,  
HSE Offices, Merlin Park, Galway.**

Miontuairiscí Cruinnithe Chinn Bhliana an Fhóraitm Réigiúnach Sláinte, a tionóladh ar an Mháirt 26<sup>th</sup>  
Márta, 2018 ag 2.00 .i.n, i Seomra 1 an tIonad Oideachais,  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Páirc Mheirlinne, Gaillimh

**Chairperson:** Cllr Rosaleen O’Grady

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Present (continued)</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>
Cllr Finola Armstrong-McGuire	Cllr Mary Hoade	Cllr Michael Collins
Cllr Ciaran Brogan	Cllr. Paddy Kilduff	Cllr Ger D’Arcy
Cllr Pat Burke	Cllr Donagh Killilea	Cllr Aidan Donohue
Cllr John Carroll	Cllr Michael Loftus	Cllr Michael Finnerty
Cllr Pádraig Conneely	Cllr Michael McBride	Cllr Michael Hourigan
Cllr Dermot Connolly	Cllr Gerry McMonagle	Cllr Bernard McGuinness
Cllr Tom Connolly	Cllr Tom McNamara	Cllr Niall McNelis
Cllr Gerry Crawford	Cllr Ann Norton	Cllr Gino O’Boyle
Cllr Michael Creaton	Cllr Terry O’Flaherty	Cllr Michael Sheahan
Cllr David Doran	Cllr Damien Ryan	Cllr Brigid Teefy
Cllr Caillian Ellis	Cllr PJ Ryan	<b>Apologies</b>
Cllr Francis Foley	Cllr Jerome Scanlan	Cllr Keith Henry
Cllr Felim Gurn	Cllr Tony Ward	Cllr Michael Kilcoyne
		Cllr Malachy McCreesh

**In attendance:**

Chris Kane, General Manager, UHG, Saolta University Health Care Group  
 Sean Murphy, General Manager, LUH, Saolta University Health Care Group  
 Colette Cowan, Chief Executive Officer, UL Hospitals Group  
 Tony Canavan, Executive Lead, Regional Health Forum/CHO, Community Healthcare West  
 Joe Hoare, Assistant National Director Estates, West  
 Marian Cavanagh, Regional Health Forum Office  
 Anna Lyons, Regional Health Forum Office

**684/80/19 – Minutes of previous meeting 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019 were proposed by Cllr David Doran, seconded by Cllr Tony Ward and adopted.

**685/80/19 Matters Arising:**

**686/80/19 Chairman's Address:**

Cllr Mary Hoade wished to add a vote of sympathy on the passing of Mr. Joe O'Toole and Cllr Terry O'Flaherty would also like to extend her sympathies.

Cllr Michael McBride wished to extend his sympathy to the Larkin family on the passing of Cllr Dessie Larkin, may he rest in peace.

The Chairperson extended her deepest sympathy to Tony Canavan on the passing of his father Mick, may he rest in peace.

**Primary Care Centres in County Clare**

**Action:** J Hoare to provide Cllr's Ann Norton, Pat Burke, PJ Ryan and Tom McNamara with the location of the sites for the Primary Care Centres in County Clare.

**687/80/19 Questions:**

**W80Q2422 - Dermatology Services at Letterkenny University Hospital**

**Action:** S Murphy to keep the Donegal Regional Health Forum members up to date on the progress regarding the CAWT Funding Cross Border Project to deliver an Outpatient Phototherapy service at Letterkenny University Hospital.

**W80Q2434 - Physiotherapy Post Galway**

**Action:** T Canavan to provide Cllr. Mary Hoade with an update on the timeframe for the filling of the 3 Physiotherapy posts in the Galway Area.

**W80Q2438 –Car Parking Spaces at Roscommon University Hospital**

**Action:** C Kane to respond to Cllr Ward in relation to when the extra car parking spaces will be available at Roscommon University Hospital.

**688/80/19 Motions:**

**689/80/19 – Any Other Business:**

**690/80/19 Date & Time of Next Meeting:**

The next **Regional Health Forum Committee** meeting will take place on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 2pm in Sligo.

The next **Regional Health Forum** meeting will take place on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 2pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

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Cathaoirleach/Chairman

*Adopted at the Regional Health Forum West meeting*

## QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES RECEIVED REGIONAL HEALTH FORUM WEST – 14<sup>th</sup> MAY 2019

NUMBER	QUESTION	RAISED BY	PAGE NO.
W81Q2447	Plans to relocate the GUH psychiatric teams, where and when. Can you confirm the future homes for Galway West, Galway East and Galway City and is the “Ryan Hanley Building” going to be used as part of this?	Cllr D Killillea	3
W81Q2448	When is planning permission being sought for the new residential care unit in Tuam, the estimated final cost of the project and what is the building going to be called?	Cllr D Killillea	3
W81Q2449	Can the HSE confirm that they have outsourced the delivery of medical/sanitary supplies to private homes/care facilities in the Galway Area, who is the service delivery contractor, is there an audit trail for deliveries in place?	Cllr D Killillea	3
W81Q2450	Can the HSE confirm if the HR embargo is still in place in HSE WEST Area, are agency staff hours being reduced and how many surgeries/procedures in the Galway Hospitals have been cancelled since 01/ 01/2019 to date?	Cllr D Killillea	3-4
W81Q2451	Delays in the handover of patients from ambulances to the A&E at Mayo University Hospital. What has been the longest delay?	Cllr M Kilcoyne	4-5
W81Q2452	What is the up to date position and time frame re the extension to the A&E at MUH.	Cllr M Kilcoyne	5
W81Q2453	Patients trolley numbers in MUH for January, February and March 2019 Are patients on trolleys in wards included in these figures?	Cllr M Kilcoyne	5
W81Q2454	Numbers employed in each category in the Psychiatric services in Co. Mayo currently, and same for 2010. How many patients were dealt with last year by the Psychiatric services in Mayo?	Cllr M Kilcoyne	5-6
W81Q2455	Update re staffing, services etc for the Mervue Clinic, and an undertaking that the clinic will continue to operate at full capacity for the foreseeable future.	Cllr T O’Flaherty	6
W81Q2456	Can I have a updated report on the proposal to have Outpatient phototherapy service to treat patients in Letterkenny?	Cllr C Brogan	6
W81Q2457	Update on the status of the Modular Build in Merlin Park.	Cllr P Conneely	6
W81Q2458	Update on the ED Dept at UHG: planning, contracts, build cost and time frame.	Cllr P Conneely	6-7
W81Q2459	Current and future status of the Clifden Community Hospital and St. Anne’s Nursing Home.	Cllr P Conneely	7
W81Q2460	Can the UHL group put dimmed lights in all ED Department’s for patient comfort.	Cllr A Norton	7
W81Q2461	Tenders for equipment in the Mid West Area, frequency and process for awarding same.	Cllr A Norton	7-8
W81Q2462	Number of surgeries lists and procedures that take place weekly in Ennis Hospital throughout the calendar year on a week to week basis, the numbers of people seen on a daily basis for surgical procedures and the number of people on the waiting lists in Ennis for these procedures?	Cllr A Norton	8-9



<b>W81Q2463</b>	Can the UHL group look at Ennis Hospital for more x rays and more scan opportunities? What happened to the Mammogram machine that was bought by fundraising by the people of Co. Clare?	<b>Cllr A Norton</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>W81Q2464</b>	If Planning application has been lodged for the new ED Dept, if pre planning discussions have taken place, confirm to me the next stages of the process.	<b>Cllr M Hoade</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>W81Q2465</b>	Current situation re Modular Theatres in Merlin Park. Current numbers waiting on orthopaedic surgery. How many surgeries were carried out since the two theatres closed, what numbers were on the waiting list at that time.	<b>Cllr M Hoade</b>	<b>10-11</b>
<b>W81Q2466</b>	Update re appointment of three physiotherapists in the Galway area. Are we currently covering maternity leave and sick leave?	<b>Cllr M Hoade</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>W81Q2467</b>	HSE plans for the Rosalie unit at Castlerea after they close it. Will the service users be placed in nursing homes of their choice?	<b>Cllr T Ward</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>W81Q2468</b>	Planning permission for extra car park spaces at RUH.	<b>Cllr T Ward</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>W81Q2469</b>	Difficulty in filling vacant consultant posts in the HSE Forum West area, Galway, Mayo and Roscommon?	<b>Cllr T Ward</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>W81Q2470</b>	Waiting list for home help in South Roscommon and County Roscommon.	<b>Cllr T Ward</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>W81Q2471</b>	Update on the new site for the new build at St. Patrick's Hospital in Carrick-on-Shannon?	<b>Cllr F Armstrong McGuire</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>W81Q2472</b>	Updated report on the rebuilding programme on LUH?	<b>Cllr C Brogan</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>W81Q2473</b>	Can I get and list of our priorities for LUH for 2019-2020?	<b>Cllr C Brogan</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>W81Q2474</b>	Current situation regarding the closure of West Doc in Glenamaddy.	<b>Cllr M Hoade</b>	<b>13</b>

NUMBER	QUESTION	RAISED BY
<b>W81Q2447</b>	Can HSE WEST confirm, following the demolition of the psychiatric unit at GUH, what are the current plans to relocate the teams in place, where are they being sent, and when are the planned relocations. Can you confirm the future homes for Galway West, Galway East and Galway City and is the "Ryan Hanley Building" going to be used as part of this?	<b>Clr D Killillea</b>
<p>Mental Health Services, Community Healthcare West, can confirm that 2 community mental health teams (GR1 and GR2), The Multidisciplinary teams, The Psychiatry of Later Life team, The Homeless team and some administration staff will be relocating to temporary accommodation known as Sherwood House (The Ryan Hanley Building). The outpatient clinics for these teams (GR1, GR2, Psychiatry of Later Life) will be relocated in the new Acute Adult Mental Health Unit, Galway. This planned move has been ongoing for the past 3 to 4 months and is expected to be completed by 17<sup>th</sup> May 2019.</p> <p>The above temporary accommodation is for a 3 to 4 year period only, while the permanent Primary Care Centre for West Galway City is under construction.</p> <p>We anticipate that the Psychiatry of Later Life service will move again during 2019 to a leased facility.</p> <p><b>T. Canavan, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare West</b></p>		
<b>W81Q2448</b>	When is the planning permission being sought for the new residential care unit in Tuam, and what is the estimated final cost of the project, what is the building going to be called?	<b>Clr D Killillea</b>
<p>A Design Team has been procured and appointed to deliver the project. The Design Team has completed the initial feasibility design and has commenced to develop the detailed design. It is anticipated that a planning permission application will be lodged by the end of Quarter Two 2019. The estimated final cost of the project will be subject to development of the detailed design and equipping requirements and competitive tendering for the construction works. Further to a charitable donation deed agreed between the HSE and the late Joseph O'Toole in respect of a donation of €7 million towards the construction of this new Community Nursing Unit facility, the HSE has agreed that the new CNU will be named the Joe and Helen O'Toole Community Nursing Unit. A plaque is to be erected in this regard.</p> <p><b>Joe Hoare, Assistant National Director of Estates (West).</b></p>		
<b>W81Q2449</b>	Can the HSE confirm that they have outsourced the delivery of medical/sanitary supplies in the Galway Area to private homes/care facilities and who is the service delivery contractor, is there an audit trail for deliveries in place?	<b>Clr D Killillea</b>
<p>HSE clients have encountered delays with deliveries of incontinence products following a change of supplier in 2018. Despite numerous meetings and interactions with this supplier, difficulties still remain with the continuity of supply. On foot of this ongoing issue, the HSE are re-tendering for this service and it is expected a new tender will be in place by September 1<sup>st</sup>. In the meantime every effort is being made by the HSE with the current supplier to improve performance.</p> <p><b>T. Canavan, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare West</b></p>		
<b>W81Q2450</b>	Can the HSE confirm if the HR embargo is still in place in HSE WEST Area, are agency staff hours being reduced and how many	<b>Clr D Killillea</b>



surgeries/procedures in the Galway Hospitals have been cancelled since 01/ 01/2019 to date?

There is a recruitment pause in place for three months.

We have had no cancellations to date.

The following agency staff in the Galway Primary Care area had their contracts terminated as of Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

Occupational Therapy – 2

Physiotherapy – 1

Psychology – 2

Clerical / Admin – 3

This will likely mean that appointments will be delayed as a result.

**T. Canavan, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare West**

The Saolta Group must work within our allocated budget and staffing allocation. All funded posts are currently being progressed; however they do have to go through an additional approval process.

We are actively managing our agency use and aim to keep it to a minimum and it is only used in the context of increasing demand for services, on-going challenges in the recruitment and retention of staff or funded initiatives under NTPF. Agency pay costs are under constant review.

The number of cancellations have been broken down into the table below, 01/01/2019 to date, based on patient initiated and hospital initiated cancellations; to date 2019 has seen a total of 1646 procedures cancelled.

The reasons for cancellations are a combination of patient request, patient not clinically fit, hospital deferral or non-availability for an appropriate bed.

Cancellations	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total
Hospital Initiated	113	258	214	184	769
Patient Initiated	184	216	243	234	877
Total	297	474	457	418	1646

**A. Cosgrove, COO, Saolta University Health Care Group**

**W81Q2451**

There has on recent occasions been considerable delays in the handover of patients from ambulances to the A&E at Mayo University Hospital. What has been the longest delay this year from ambulance arriving at hospital to handover of patient and when did it occur?

**Clr M Kilcoyne**

The longest ambulance turnaround time at Mayo University Hospital year to date 2019 occurred on 4/4/2019. The turnaround time recorded for the ambulance which arrived at 20.15 was 5 hours, this is not acceptable and we regret any distress or upset that this delay may have caused the patient or their family.

It is important to state that over the month of March there were 692 ambulance attendances to the ED at Mayo University Hospital and 84% were cleared in 1 hour. We are currently in the process of developing new access points to the hospital for non-emergency ambulances so they don't have to bring patients to hospital via the ED.

The activity in the hospital has remained very high for March and April 2019. When this occurs there is overcrowding in the Emergency Department and unfortunately the last week in March and the first two weeks in

April proved to be very difficult from a patient flow perspective. This in turn has an impact on the turnaround times for ambulances attending the hospital. Medical admissions for March and April have been significantly higher than that for the same period of time for of last year.

Significant work has been undertaken in recent years to reduce the number of patients who wait in the Emergency Department for admission. This includes the ring-fencing of an Acute Medical Assessment Unit since April 2018, which GPs have direct referral access to. We also transfer all acute medical patients from the ED, once triaged, to the Acute Medical Assessment Unit.

In addition at the end of 2017, we moved our medical paediatric patients from the Emergency Department and now treat them in an area separate to the ED called the Paediatric Decision Unit (PDU).

In consultation with our colleagues in the community, we have developed a community diagnostic service in the Primary Care Centre in Castlebar and this has recently been expanded to include ultrasound. This means that patients do not need to be referred via the Emergency Department for many x-rays and ultrasounds.

We have also significantly increased staffing levels in our Emergency Department. In the last four years our number of ED consultants has increased from one to four and we have increased our nursing staff in the ED by seven whole time equivalents in the last 12 months. We continue to work to recruit nursing staff to our ED.

**A. Cosgrove, COO, Saolta University Health Care Group**

<b>W81Q2452</b>	What is the up to date position in relation to the promised extension to the A&E at Mayo University Hospital. What is the proposed time frame for having this extension in place?	<b>Clr M Kilcoyne</b>
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The current position in relation to the extension to the Emergency Department at Mayo University Hospital is that a submission has been made nationally and the Acute Hospital Division supports the project. There is no funding allocation yet for this development.

**A. Cosgrove, COO, Saolta University Health Care Group**

<b>W81Q2453</b>	List the number of patients on trolleys in University Hospital Mayo in January, February and March this year. Are patients on trolleys in wards included in these figures?	<b>Clr M Kilcoyne</b>
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See below for the number of patients on trolleys at MUH, including patients on trolleys in ward areas:

<b>Jan 2019</b>	<b>February 2019</b>	<b>March 2019</b>
361	273	303

**A. Cosgrove, COO, Saolta University Health Care Group**

<b>W81Q2454</b>	Please give a breakdown of the numbers employed in each category in the Psychiatric services in County Mayo currently. Please give the same information for 2010. How many patients were dealt with last year by the Psychiatric services in Mayo?	<b>Clr M Kilcoyne</b>
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<b>Discipline</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2018</b>
Clerical/Administration	35.14	36.21
Medical	18.18	23.66
Nursing	220.33	196.36
Allied Health Professionals	16.03	28.47
Support staff	26.12	11.65



Patient & Client care	75.52	82.84
Totals	391.32	379.19

The number of discharges in 2018 was 906.

**T. Canavan, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare West**

<b>W81Q2455</b>	Could you please provide an update in relation to staffing etc for the Mervue Clinic, an outline of the services provided there, and to seek an undertaking that the clinic will continue to operate at full capacity for the foreseeable future.	<b>Cllr T O'Flaherty</b>
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There are no plans to close Mervue Health Centre (HC) with the current HSE services continuing for the foreseeable future. Two Public Health Nurses (PHNs) and one Community Registered General Nurse (CRGN) who are members of City East Primary Care Team (PCT) are based in Mervue HC providing a service in the Mervue and Wellpark area. Public Health Nursing (PHN) provide services both domiciliary and centre based including child health and wound dressing. PHN services to the Mervue clients will continue to be provided from this Health Centre. There is a four GP general practice with a practice nurse and three support staff. A visiting GP and practice nurse also provide a service. The Drugs Service has three Doctors and a CRGN with clinics Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Nursing staff for Castlegar PCT are currently based in Mervue Health Centre as there is no accommodation in the geography the team covers. The therapists for the Castlegar PCT are based in Galway City East Primary Care Centre (PCC).

**T. Canavan, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare West**

<b>W81Q2456</b>	Can I have a updated report on the proposal to have Outpatient phototherapy service to treat patients in Letterkenny?	<b>Cllr C Brogan</b>
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The phototherapy equipment has arrived at Letterkenny University Hospital. Staff training is currently underway and guidelines are being developed. It is hoped that the pre- phototherapy skin assessments will take place at the end of May/beginning of June with patients receiving full phototherapy treatment before the end of June. The Phototherapy Unit will be commissioned with support from the Physicist University Hospital Galway prior to treatment commencing.

**A. Cosgrove, COO, Saolta University Health Care Group**

<b>W81Q2457</b>	Can you give an update on the status of the Modular Build in Merlin Park in relation to planning, contracts, build, cost and time frame for same.	<b>Cllr P Conneely</b>
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As previously advised, the HSE terminated its letter of intent with the successful provider for the leased solution for this project in March 2019 after failing to reach agreement on the terms of the contract despite the elapse of a very significant time period. A revised procurement strategy has since been developed and agreed locally whereby the intention is to now proceed with a rapid build traditional procurement capital project approach. The intention is to make use of the current planning application as part of this revised strategy. The first task in this regard has been to engage with the design team who submitted the planning permission application. A draft response has now been prepared by them in regard to the further information request issued by Galway City Council. That response is due to be submitted to Galway City Council within the next week or so. The intention is to progress the detailed design of the project during 2019 with a view to being in a position to go to tender and to progress the construction of the build during 2020 subject to the necessary national approvals and availability of capital funding for same in 2020.

**Joe Hoare, Assistant National Director of Estates (West).**

<b>W81Q2458</b>	What is the current status of the ED Dept at UHG, planning, contracts build cost and time frame for same.	<b>Cllr P Conneely</b>
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It is anticipated that the initial design phase of the project will be completed in the coming weeks. Discussions are



ongoing to complete the clinical requirements review of the women & children's accommodation to be provided on the upper floors and a decant building design is being developed for the interim Emergency Department arrangements to facilitate the delivery of the new build project. The designs of the proposed bus corridor route through the hospital campus and the helipad redevelopment proposal are now both well advanced subject to formal agreement with Galway City Council and the NTA. Once the scheme is finalised for the build, the HSE will then be engaging with An Bord Pleanála in respect of a determination regarding whether or not the planning application for the new block will proceed by way of the strategic infrastructure development (SID) process or otherwise. It may also be necessary to make additional planning applications for the decant building and potentially also separately for other enabling works.

**Joe Hoare, Assistant National Director of Estates (West).**

<b>W81Q2459</b>	What is the current status of the Clifden Community Hospital, and the St. Anne's Nursing Home – and the future plans for both facilities.	<b>Cllr P Conneely</b>
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A Design Team has been approved and appointed to the capital project at Clifden. This project will involve the consolidation of services currently being provided at Clifden District Hospital and St. Anne's Community Nursing Unit (CNU) with the construction of a new amalgamated 50 Bed Unit on the grounds of St. Anne's CNU.

The Design Team is currently progressing with drafting the design of the new unit with service input and will include provision for a 10 Bed Dementia Specific Unit as part of the 50 Bed complement in addition to the current Respite Bed complement of 2 beds. These 2 beds will be interchangeable as respite care and palliative care beds. All of the rooms in the new unit will be single bedded en suite rooms.

There is currently no date for the submission of a planning application for the new unit.

**T. Canavan, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare West**

<b>W81Q2460</b>	Can the UHL group put dimmed lights in all ED Department's so at night it would allow patients rest without extremely bright lights shining down on top of them which is quite annoying and quite severe on your eyes?	<b>Cllr A Norton</b>
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The ED at University Hospital Limerick operates on a 24/7 basis with patients attending and requiring care during the day and night time.

Dimming lights in areas where care is being delivered is not a safe practice.

However, to counteract the glare from the lights, sleep packs are provided to patients whilst they wait admission. These include eye masks and earplugs. Care packs which include personal care products are also provided.

**C Cowan, CEO UL Hospital Group**

<b>W81Q2461</b>	How often do the HSE look for tenders for equipment in the Mid West area eg. wheelchairs, toilets equipment etc, and how and who makes the decisions on who gets the contracts?	<b>Cllr A Norton</b>
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I have been advised these devices are managed under the HSE Community Funded Schemes (CFS) programme.

CFS are an important component of the health services that are provided in the community. They play an important role in ensuring that members of the community have access to vital aids and appliances that are an essential support to their care plans and ensuring that the quality of life of individuals living with medical conditions can be maximised. In order to ensure the ongoing development and quality of these schemes, the HSE has established the Service Improvement Programme for Community Funded Schemes. This programme has the aim of improving the quality and sustainability of the CFS.

As part of the CFS, a National Reform Group for Aids and Appliances was established to review the existing services in this area. As part of this Project a national approved list of Aids and Appliances was developed, and a procurement strategy to establish contracts in 8 categories across the national approved list of Aids and Appliances

was agreed.

A separate tender process has been conducted for each of the following 8 categories:

- Drawdown Framework Agreement for Personal Care;
- Drawdown Framework Agreement for Personal Care Aids;
- Drawdown Framework Agreement for Standing and Walking Mobility;
- Drawdown Framework Agreement for Moving and Handling;
- Drawdown Framework Agreement for Chairs, Pressure Redistribution Cushions and Pressure Relief Aids;
- Drawdown Framework Agreement for Wheeled Mobility;
- Drawdown Framework Agreement for Compression Garments;
- Dynamic Purchasing System for Speech and Language Therapy.

The Drawdown Framework Agreements are typically awarded for a 24 month period with the option to extend for two further periods of twelve months each, to a maximum period of 48 months following performance review at regular intervals over the duration.

If a particular Aid or Appliance requested is not on the National contract list, it is the responsibility of the HSE Aids and Appliances office to comply with the National Financial Regulations and request the recommended amount of quotes i.e. 3 quotes required if requested item costs over €250. The contract is normally awarded to the most competitive quote that meets the requested criteria.

**B Gloster, Chief Officer, HSE Mid West Community Healthcare**

<b>W81Q2462</b>	Can you list the number of surgeries lists and procedures that take place in Ennis Hospital through out the calendar year on a week to week basis, and the numbers of people that are seen on a daily basis for surgical procedures and the number of people on the waiting lists in Ennis for these procedures?	<b>Clr A Norton</b>
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The number of surgery lists per week held in Ennis Hospital are between 12 – 14 based on scheduled sessions. A session is an am or pm session.

The following specialties currently take place in Ennis: Vascular, General Surgical\Colorectal, Gynae, Urology, Maxfax & Plastics.

**Average number of Theatre patient seen per week**

\*GA/LA – General/Local Anesthetic

Day	Specialty	Frequency	Average No. patients daily
Monday A.M.	Vascular	Alternating Mondays	3*GAs - 1 LA
Monday A.M.	General Surgical	Alternating Mondays	3 GAs – 1 LA
Monday P.M.	Gynaecology	Every Monday	4 GAs
Tuesday – full day	General Surgical	3 Tuesdays/month	7 GAs 2 LAs
Tuesday – full day	General Surgical	1 Tuesday/month	7 GAs 2 LAs
Tuesday	Dermatology	Every Tuesday	15 LAs
Wednesday – Full day	Urology	Alternating Wed.	5 GAs 1 LA
Wednesday – Full day	Max. Fax	Alternating Wed.	6 GAs 2 LAs
Thursday – Full day	Surgery	Every Thursday	3 GAs 5 LAs
Thursday – Full	Dentals	Every Thursday	10 GAs



Friday – Full day	Vascular	Alternating Fridays	5 GAs 2 LAs
Friday – Double list AM	Plastics	Alternating Fridays	18 LAs

**The Number of people on the waiting lists in Ennis for these procedures**

**Ennis Hospital**

wl type	Specialty	Wait category	ACTIVE	Grand Total
Adult	Dermatology		13	13
	Gastro-Enterology		1	1
	General Surgery		67	67
	Gynaecology		13	13
	Plastic Surgery		7	7
	Urology		491	491
	Vascular Surgery		23	23
<b>Adult Total</b>			<b>615</b>	<b>615</b>
Child	General Surgery		2	2
	Urology		9	9
<b>Child Total</b>			<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>626</b>	<b>626</b>

wl type	Specialty	Wait Time Bands	Wait category	ACTIVE	Grand Total
Adult	Dermatology	0-3 Months		9	9
		3-6 Months		3	3
		8-12 Months		1	1
	Gastro-Enterolog	0-3 Months		1	1
		3-6 Months		40	40
	General Surgery	0-3 Months		16	16
		3-6 Months		5	5
		6-8 Months		4	4
		8-12 Months		2	2
		12-15 Months		2	2
	Gynaecology	0-3 Months		10	10
		3-6 Months		1	1
		6-8 Months		1	1
		8-12 Months		1	1
	Plastic Surgery	0-3 Months		7	7
		3-6 Months		154	154
	Urology	0-3 Months		146	146
		3-6 Months		88	88
		6-8 Months		99	99
		8-12 Months		3	3
12-15 Months			1	1	
Vascular Surgery	0-3 Months		14	14	
	3-6 Months		4	4	
	6-8 Months		4	4	
	8-12 Months		1	1	
<b>Adult Total</b>			<b>615</b>	<b>615</b>	
Child	General Surgery	0-3 Months		1	1
		3-6 Months		1	1
	Urology	0-3 Months		2	2
		3-6 Months		4	4
		6-8 Months		1	1
8-12 Months		2	2		
<b>Child Total</b>			<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>626</b>	<b>626</b>	

**C Cowan, CEO UL Hospital Group**

<b>W81Q2463</b>	Can the UHL group look at Ennis Hospital for more x rays and more scan opportunities to save people having to wait on trolley's in ED in UHL and what happened to the Mammogram machine that was bought by fundraising by the people of Co. Clare?	<b>Cllr A Norton</b>
<p>Patients who present to the ED at UHL are triaged and undergo appropriate diagnostics to determine their care pathway.</p> <p>Appropriate patients are transferred to Ennis Hospital and other model 2 Hospitals in the group for the continuation of their care where clinically appropriate, and in line with the Small Hospitals Framework.</p> <p>The mammogram unit was purchased in 2001 and is now obsolete. The last mammograms were performed in Ennis in October 2006 and the unit was decommissioned in November 2008.</p> <p>UHL is a designated centre for mammograms which are performed under the National Breast Screening Programme. Separately to the screening programme, patients who require mammograms for diagnostic purposes are facilitated in the Symptomatic Breast Unit, UHL.</p>		
<b>C Cowan, CEO UL Hospital Group</b>		
<b>W81Q2464</b>	Can you confirm to me if the planning application has been lodged for the new ED Dept. Did pre planning discussions take place? Can you confirm to me the next stages of the process.	<b>Cllr M Hoade</b>
<p>A planning application has not been lodged for the new ED Department. A decision will be required in the first instance from An Bord Pleanála (APB) in respect of a determination regarding whether or not the planning application for the new block will proceed by way of the strategic infrastructure development (SID) process or otherwise. It is intended to get the SID pre-application consultation underway with ABP once the scheme for the project is finalised and approved internally. It is anticipated that the initial design phase of the project will be completed in the coming weeks. Discussions are ongoing to complete the clinical requirements review of the women &amp; children's accommodation to be provided on the upper floors and a decant building design is being developed for the interim Emergency Department arrangements to facilitate the delivery of the new build project. The designs of the proposed bus corridor route through the hospital campus and the helipad redevelopment proposal are now both well advanced subject to formal agreement with Galway City Council and the NTA.</p>		
<b>Joe Hoare, Assistant National Director of Estates (West)</b>		
<b>W81Q2465</b>	Can you confirm to me what is the current situation regarding the Modular Theatres in Merlin Park. What are the current numbers waiting on orthopaedic surgery. How many surgeries were carried out since the two theatres closed, what numbers were on the waiting list that time.	<b>Cllr M Hoade</b>
<p>The HSE terminated its letter of intent with the successful provider for the leased solution for this project in March 2019 after failing to reach agreement on the terms of the contract despite the elapse of a very significant time period. A revised procurement strategy has since been developed and agreed locally whereby the intention is to now proceed with a rapid build traditional procurement capital project approach. The intention is to make use of the current planning application as part of this revised strategy. The first task in this regard has been to engage with the design team who submitted the planning permission application. A draft response has now been prepared by them in regard to the further information request issued by Galway City Council. That response is due to be submitted to Galway City Council within the next week or so. The intention is to progress the detailed design of the project during 2019 with a view to being in a position to go to tender and to progress the construction of the build during 2020 subject to the necessary national approvals and availability of capital funding for same in 2020.</p>		
<b>Joe Hoare, Assistant National Director of Estates (West)</b>		



The current numbers waiting on orthopaedic surgery (including patients with a TCI and patients who have been suspended). Waiting List as at end April 2019;

Specialty	Orthopaedics										
Count of Hospital Name	Column Labels										
Row Labels	0-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-8 Months	8-12 Months	12-15 Months	15-18 Months	18-24 Months	24-36 Months	36-48 Months	48+ Months	Grand Total
ACTIVE	399	272	177	240	70	50	60	19	5	1	1293
PREADMIT	43	21	6	19	10	3	5				107
SUSPENSION	18	4	3	9	5	6	5	2		19	71
Grand Total	460	297	186	268	85	59	70	21	5	20	1471

The number of orthopaedic surgeries carried out since the beginning of Oct 2017 is 3,511 elective and 2,222 emergency.

The waiting list figures at the time of the closures, as at end September 2017 is listed below;

Specialty	Orthopaedics										
Count of hospital name	Column Labels										
Row Labels	0-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-8 Months	8-12 Months	12-15 Months	15-18 Months	18-24 Months	24-36 Months	36-48 Months	48+ Months	Grand Total
ACTIVE	413	223	94	113	41	14	22	13	6	1	940
PREADMIT	6	2	1								9
SUSPENSION	14	5		4	3		2				28
Grand Total	433	230	95	117	44	14	24	13	6	1	977

**A. Cosgrove, COO, Saolta University Health Care Group**

<b>W81Q2466</b>	What is the current situation regarding the appointment of three physiotherapists in the Galway area. Are we currently covering maternity leave and sick leave.	<b>Cllr M Hoade</b>
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The 3 Physiotherapy posts in the Galway Area are currently not filled. They are on hold in line with the moratorium on recruitment of staff in Primary Care Community Healthcare West as part of our cost containment measures.

Maternity/Sick leave posts are not back-filled in line with this moratorium.

**T. Canavan, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare West**

<b>W81Q2467</b>	Can the HSE inform the members of this forum what plans if any have the HSE for the Rosalie unit at Castlerea after they close the unit. Will the service users be placed in nursing homes of their choice.	<b>Cllr T Ward</b>
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Community Healthcare West is committed to the Rosalie Unit continuing to provide a health care service to the people of Roscommon. A Steering Group is currently being set up to consider the future use of the Rosalie Unit site which would best support service provision in the Roscommon Area in line with our delivery plan. Any change of use from its current one will be done in consultation with public representatives and relevant stakeholders for the area.

Individual plans in respect of the future care arrangements for each resident of the Rosalie Unit will be discussed thoroughly with the residents and their next of kin, in order that the individual needs of the residents can be met in the most comprehensive way, and in the most appropriate setting. This will include service users and their NOK expressing their preference of fair deal private nursing home accommodation as appropriate.

**T. Canavan, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare West**

<b>W81Q2468</b>	Can the HSE inform the members of this forum if the HSE have applied to Roscommon County Council for planning permission for extra car park spaces at Roscommon County Hospital.	<b>Cllr T Ward</b>
<p>Stage 1 of the Design Phase of the Rehabilitation Project is progressing. A traffic and mobility management plan is being compiled and will be submitted to Roscommon County Council for consideration for additional car parking requirements in conjunction with the Rehabilitation Project.</p>		
<p><b>A. Cosgrove, COO, Saolta University Health Care Group</b></p>		
<b>W81Q2469</b>	Can the HSE inform the members of this forum if the HSE are finding it difficult to fill vacant consultant posts in the HSE Forum West area, Galway, Mayo and Roscommon.	<b>Cllr T Ward</b>
<p>On occasion the Saolta Group does experience difficulties in recruiting certain consultant posts. This can be for a number a reasons including a shortage of qualified candidates in certain specialties and geographical factors.</p>		
<p>At different times, some of the following specialities have been challenging to fill on specific sites: Emergency Medicine, Geriatric Medicine, Obstetrics Gynaecology, Radiology and Anaesthetics.</p>		
<p>The Group continues to advertise for vacant consultant posts and has implemented a number of measures to make posts more attractive to applicants including joint-appointments between Galway University Hospital and the other hospitals in the Group. We also have worked closely with the NUI Galway to identify teaching opportunities which may attract candidates.</p>		
<p><b>A. Cosgrove, COO, Saolta University Health Care Group</b></p>		
<p>There are difficulties filling consultant posts in Mental Health Services. By way of example, currently there remains a vacancy for a General Adult Consultant Psychiatrist in Mental Health Services, despite a panel being created in early 2018.</p>		
<p>In 2015 an Old Age Consultant Psychiatrist post was advertised and there were no applicants. The post was re-advertised in early 2018 and has since been filled.</p>		
<p>Overall the number of applicants is very low for any Consultant post.</p>		
<p><b>T. Canavan, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare West</b></p>		
<b>W81Q2470</b>	Can the HSE inform the members of this forum how many older people are on a waiting list for home help in South Roscommon and in County Roscommon.	<b>Cllr T Ward</b>
<p>There are currently 132 clients on the Waiting List for a Home Support service in County Roscommon at the end of March 2019 with a further 15 clients waiting for additional Home Support hours to be put in place.</p>		
<p>In relation to those clients in South Roscommon on the Waiting List for Home Support, there are 54 individuals awaiting a service with a further 7 clients awaiting additional homecare hours at the end of March.</p>		
<p>Please note that while the resources allocated to the Home Support service have increased in recent years, they are limited. As a result Home Support is implemented based on prioritised need within Community Healthcare West available resources and is a discretionary service to support Older People to remain in their own homes where possible. Where it is determined that an applicant requires Home Support but due to the lack of available resources it is not possible to implement care at that time the applicant is placed on a waiting list.</p>		
<p><b>T. Canavan, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare West</b></p>		



<b>W81Q2471</b>	What is the current situation in relation to the purchase of the new site for the new build at St. Patrick's Hospital in Carrick-on-Shannon?	<b>Cllr F Armstrong McGuire</b>
<p>The replacement of St. Patrick's Hospital in Carrick-on-Shannon, with a new ninety bed Community Nursing Unit, is on the HSE Capital Plan.</p> <p>The purchase of a site in Carrick-on-Shannon has been agreed, subject to planning, and the Design Team are, currently, finalising the Stage 1 Design Report.</p> <p><b>J. Hayes, Chief Officer, CHO1</b></p>		
<b>W81Q2472</b>	Could I get a updated report on the rebuilding programme on Letterkenny University Hospital?	<b>Cllr C Brogan</b>
<p>Please see below for an update on the LUH Rebuild Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioning of Acute Stroke Unit (Q2)</li> <li>• Commissioning of Maternity Theatre (Q3 – Q4)</li> <li>• Progress Renal Unit Expansion business case (Q1 – Q4)</li> <li>• Escalated Endo Bronchial Ultrasound Service (Q4)</li> <li>• Replace Oncology Pharmaceutical Isolator (Q3)</li> <li>• Replace funded equipment (Q2 – Q3)</li> </ul> <p><b>A. Cosgrove, COO, Saolta University Health Care Group</b></p>		
<b>W81Q2473</b>	Can I get and list of our priorities for Letterkenny University Hospital for 2019-2020?	<b>Cllr C Brogan</b>
<p>The priorities for the next year include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving unscheduled care (emergency care) through increased capacity and enhanced patient pathways (Q1 – Q4)</li> <li>• Reducing waiting lists for inpatient, day cases and out-patients services (Q1 – Q4)</li> <li>• Clinical and support staff recruitment (Q1 – Q4)</li> <li>• Delivery of cancer KPIs (Q1 – Q4)</li> <li>• Commissioning of Short Stay Ward (Q2)</li> <li>• Commissioning of new Radiology Department (Q2 – Q3)</li> <li>• Commissioning of new Mortuary Facilities (Q2)</li> </ul> <p><b>A. Cosgrove, COO, Saolta University Health Care Group</b></p>		
<b>W81Q2474</b>	What is the current situation regarding the closure of West Doc in Glenamaddy.	<b>Cllr M Hoade</b>
<p><u>Glenamaddy/Roscommon/Castlerea Cell Westdoc.</u></p> <p>The above cells merged on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019. This decision came about due to the onerous rota expected of GP's resulting in the non-filling of vacant posts in rural areas, the non-reversals of FEMPI cuts and the low numbers attending the service. The merged GP rota is now in line with other cells within Westdoc. The above cell had a number of years ago merged for the Midnight to 8am shift that has worked extremely well.</p> <p>There will be no change in the hours of service provided to the patients. The GP's are based in the new Primary Care Centre in Roscommon; patients will also be seen in Glenamaddy or Castlerea as deemed appropriate by the Doctor. New Practice Nurses have been employed to operate from the Primary Care Centre on Saturdays and Sundays to further enhance the service.</p> <p><b>T. Canavan, Chief Officer, Community Healthcare West</b></p>		