



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Minutes of HSE Board Meeting

A meeting of the Board of the Health Service Executive was held on Friday 26th July 2019, 10:00am at HSE, Primary Care Reimbursement Service, Finglas, Dublin 11

Members Present: Ciarán Devane (Chairperson), Deirdre Madden (Deputy Chairperson) [via telecon], Aogan Ó Fearghail, Brendan Lenihan, Fergus Finlay, Fergus O' Kelly, Fiona Ross [via telecon], Mark Molloy, Sarah Mc Loughlin, Tim Hynes, Yvonne Traynor.

In attendance: HSE Executives - Paul Reid (CEO), Liam Woods, Maureen Cronin, Colm Henry [am only], Stephanie O'Keeffe, Rosarii Mannion, Geraldine Smith, Paul Connors, Fran Thompson, Joe Ryan, David Walsh, Damien McCallion [am only], John Kelly.

Joined for PCRS Overview: Anne Marie Hoey, Shaun Flanagan

Joined for Capital Plan and Contracts Approvals (Item 8.1): Jane Carolan, Jim Curran

Board Secretary: Jim O' Sullivan, Niamh Drew (Deputy)

1.0 -3.0 Welcome, Agenda, Chairperson's Remarks

The Chairperson, Ciaran Devane noted that a quorum was present and the meeting proceeded to business.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 26 June 2019 were agreed for signing and the Agenda for the meeting was agreed. An Action Log has been developed since the last meeting and that this will be used to track progress of actions. It was noted that a number of these actions are dealt with in the report of the Chief Executive. Other matters were dealt with under relevant agenda items or will be addressed at future meetings.

Brendan Lenihan declared a conflict of interest in relation to agenda item 8.3.1 and stated he would take no part in discussions or decisions in relation to that item.

The Chair reminded the Board of their role and responsibilities in line with legislation and the principles of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies.

4.0 Report of Chief Executive Officer

The Board noted the report presented the CEO covering issues under the priority areas of the Board. This was followed by a discussion covering a range of issues and questions raised including: Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control; Medical Recruitment and Patient Safety; Headcount; Slaintecare – Regional Integrated Care Organisations; IFMS Rollout; Community Operations – Service Update; New Children's Hospital; Financial Outlook.

5.0 Cervical Screening

Colm Henry made a presentation on *Screening in Ireland: the Cervical Check controversy and the aftermath*. This outlined the context of screening, what went wrong in this case, the immediate response and on-going work to address issues that arose.

The Board welcomed the presentation and a detailed discussion took place where members made observations and asked questions which were clarified by members of the Executive.

The Board expressed its expectation of a clear, proactive response to events and to the upcoming report by Professor Brian McCraith while also recognising the efforts of staff over the past year to provide screening services despite the difficulties.

6.0 Access to Service

Liam Woods presented a paper on Access to Service which detailed the current view in terms of performance against access wait times targets for the following areas;

- Elective Inpatient, Day Case and Out patients (Elective Acute Hospital Care);
- Emergency Department and inpatient non-elective (Unscheduled Acute Hospital Care);

It covered issues such as: variation in performance; performance management and a number of workstreams to support improvement in access as well as requirements for a sustainable system for the future dealing with the key issues of contact points and diagnostics and the need to secure funding for technology enablers. Following a discussion and questions from members, it was noted that a similar briefing will be presented in relation to non-acute services at a future meeting.

The Board noted the challenges in improving access and asked the Executive to ensure steps to improve waiting times and reduce waiting list numbers would form part of the forthcoming Corporate Plan.

Primary Care Reimbursement Service

Anne Marie Hoey presented an overview of the principle core functions of Primary Care eligibility and Reimbursement Services covering a range of areas including: Core Activity Areas; Stakeholders and Relationships; Medical Card/GP Visit Card Eligibility; Pharmacy and Corporate Pharmaceutical Unit; Finance; Probity and Plans for 2019. Shaun Flanagan gave an overview of the drug approval process. Following a discussion by members a short tour of the PCRS facility was conducted.

7.0 Reserved Functions of the Board

Committees of the Board

Following a verbal update from the Chairs of the four Board Committees, the Board approved Terms of Reference for the following Committees;

- Audit and Risk Committee; **(Decision Number 260719-05)**
- People and Culture Committee; **(Decision Number 260719-06)**
- Safety and Quality Committee; **(Decision Number 260719-07)**

In doing so, the Board noted the change of emphasis in the title of the Safety and Quality Committee. The Board also approved the appointment of external members to the Audit and Risk Committee. **(Decision Number 260719-08)**

It noted that Terms of Reference for the Performance and Delivery Committee are currently being developed and that the process to select external members for committees is on-going.

8.0 Approvals

8.1 HSE Capital Plan 2019

Following an introduction by the CEO and a presentation by HBS Estates, the Board considered and approved the submission of the 2019 HSE Capital Plan to the Minister for Health. **(Decision Number 260719-09)**. In doing so the Board noted that there is a requirement for its full engagement in the development of the 2020 Capital Plan including the prioritisation process.

8.2 Contracts

The Board approved the following contract:

8.2.1 National Contract for Respiratory Sleep Therapy Services. **(Decision Number 260719-10)**

8.3 Property Transactions

The Board approved the following property transactions;

8.3.1 Lease to Acquired Brain Injury Ireland to occupy a HSE property at [REDACTED] Dublin 24. **(Decision Number 260719-11)** [B Lenihan took no part in this item]

8.3.2 Lease to Sunbeam House Services to occupy a HSE property at [REDACTED] Shankill, Co Dublin **(Decision Number 260719-12)**

9.0 Board Matters

9.1 Engagement Model

The Board noted an update from J Ryan acknowledging that work on the engagement model between the HSE and Department of Health is ongoing and requires further high-level engagement.

9.2 Corporate Plan

The Board noted an update from Stephanie O’Keeffe in relation to the process and timeline for the development of a new HSE Corporate Plan as required under legislation. It was agreed that the Performance & Delivery Committee will take a lead role in this process on behalf of the Board.

10.0 Any other business

No items were raised.

11.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for 30 August 2019 at 10:00am.

The meeting concluded at 3:45pm after which the Board met in the absence of HSE Executives.

Signed: Ciarán Devane

Ciarán Devane

Chairperson

Date 27.09.2019