

Minute of the meeting of the
Board of the Health Service Executive
 on
Thursday, 30th April, 2009

Members present: L. Downey (Chairman), B. Drumm (CEO), D. de Buitleur, P. Farrell, M. Gaffney, J. Mooney, A. Scott, W. O'Reilly, E. McCague (via teleconference) and N. Brennan.

Apologies: P.J. Fitzpatrick.

Attendees: D. Purcell (Secretary to the Board).

Joined the meeting: B. Gilroy, G Hurl and J. Carolan.

Time & Location: HSE Offices, Adelaide Road, Dublin at 8.00 a.m.

Item	Discussion / Comments	Action
	<p>At the start of the meeting the CEO updated the Board on the arrangements to deal with the potential influenza pandemic from influenza A(H1N1) - swine flu.</p> <p>He confirmed that HSE Public Health experts and officials, the Health Protection Surveillance Centre and the Department of Health and Children are meeting daily and are carefully monitoring reports nationally and internationally on the influenza. Following the announcement by the WHO that the swine flu has moved from a level 4 to level 5 on its pandemic chart the HSE has been preparing to implement the Influenza Pandemic Plan. Surveillance is being stepped up around the country. Guidance has been issued to public health officers and GPs in relation to sending tests to the National Viral Reference Laboratory. A dedicated 24 hour Flu Information Line is available and the overall communications plan is being finalised and this will include information leaflets being sent to all households over the next week.</p> <p>The CEO reported that the current level of influenza pandemic alert could change and the HSE needs to be in a position to react quickly to any changes. He requested that the Board would delegate to him authority to incur any necessary expenditure in relation to the costs arising from the potential pandemic.</p> <p>Following a discussion the Board noted the update and on the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by J. Mooney, the Board agreed that, notwithstanding the reserved function of the Board to approve contracts in excess of €10 million entered into directly by the HSE, the Board would delegate to the CEO authority to incur all necessary expenditure in relation to costs associated with the potential pandemic. (Decision Number: HSE/Board/30.04/ (11)/2009).</p> <p>The Board requested that a further update would be provided at the Board meeting on 14th May 2009.</p>	CEO/P. Doorley
1	Annual Report 2008 Adoption in accordance with section 37 of the Health Act 2004	
	J. Carolan joined the meeting for consideration of this item. The Chairman informed the Board that, in accordance with section 37 of the	

Item	Discussion / Comments	Action
	<p>Health Act 2004 the Annual Report had to be formally adopted no later than the 30th April 2009.</p> <p>It was noted that drafts of the Annual Report had already been considered by Management, the Audit Committee and the Board at previous meetings.</p> <p>J. Carolan then reported on the process followed to prepare the draft Annual Report 2008 and Board members provided feedback and suggested some further revisions.</p> <p>Subject to the inclusion of the revisions suggested by members and finalisation of proofing and design layouts, the adoption of the Annual Report 2008 was proposed by M. Gaffney and seconded by W. O'Reilly and agreed by the Board (Decision Number: HSE/Board/30.04/ (12)/2009).</p> <p>The Board noted the Report will now be submitted by the Chairman to the Minister in line with section 37 of the Health Act 2004.</p>	Chairman
2	ICT Projects and Strategy Update	
	<p>B. Gilroy and G. Hurl joined the meeting for consideration of this item. The Chairman welcomed G. Hurl to his new role as National Director ICT.</p> <p>G. Hurl spoke to the briefing paper on the ICT Strategy and the ICT projects update which had been circulated prior to the meeting. He updated the Board on the progress being made on the work streams within the ICT strategy and outlined the short/medium term work programme within the ICT Directorate. He also briefed the Board on the high level organisational design for the ICT Directorate and the proposals to develop a corporate advisory group and an international advisory group to monitor implementation and compliance with the ICT strategy.</p> <p>Following the update the Board noted the work programme and that consultation was ongoing with the Departments of Health and Children and Finance (CMOD) to finalise the programme. The Board requested that the finalised medium term work plan would be presented at the July 2009 Board meeting.</p>	B. Gilroy/G. Hurl
3	Update on Organisational Matters	
	<p>D. de Buitelir Chairman of the Remuneration and Organisation Committee reported on the meeting of the Committee held on Wednesday 29th April 2009. He outlined the key proposals from the management paper presented at that meeting.</p> <p>The Board noted that the next steps are finalisation of the management proposals with the Remuneration & Organisation Committee and the Department of Health & Children. Following this, consultation will take place with the individuals to be appointed at National Directorate level and the CEO will communicate the changes internally within the HSE.</p> <p>A further briefing will be provided to the Board at the May 2009 meeting.</p>	CEO/S. McGrath

The meeting concluded at 10.08am

Signed: _____
Liam Downey
Chairman

Date: _____