

**Minutes of Regional Health Forum, Dublin – Mid Leinster Meeting held
on Tuesday 16th February 2010 at the Boardroom HSE Dublin – Mid Leinster
Offices, Block 4, Central Business Park, Clonminch, Tullamore, Co. Offaly**

Present:

Cllr. P. Belton	Cllr. G. Brady
Cllr. B. Brennan	Cllr. F. Browne
Cllr. S. Crowe	Cllr. T. Cullen
Cllr. A. Davitt	Cllr. M. Dollard (Chairperson)
Cllr. P. Doran	Cllr. M. Duff
Cllr. P. Hand	Cllr. S. Harris
Cllr. M. Heydon	Cllr. G. Horkan
Cllr. K. Humphreys	Cllr. P. Kennedy
Cllr. C. King	Cllr. S. Langan
Cllr. T. McKeigue	Cllr. K. O'Brien
Cllr. D. O'Callaghan	Cllr. G. O'Connell
Cllr. P. Ormond	Cllr. P.J. Reilly
Cllr. J. Walsh	

Apologies:

Cllr. C. Devlin
Cllr. C. NiDhalaigh
Cllr. C. Byrne
Cllr. E. Coburn
Cllr. E. Walsh
Cllr. J. Foley

In attendance:

Mr. John Cregan, Director, Regional Health office, Dublin – Mid Leinster
Mr. Gerry O'Dwyer, Regional Director of Operations, HSE, Dublin – Mid Leinster
Mr. John Bulfin, Hospital Network Manager, Dublin Midlands Area.
Ms. Louise McMahon, Hospital Network Manager, Dublin South Area
Dr. Phil Jennings, Director of Public Health, Dublin – Mid Leinster
Mr. Jim Curran, Assistant National Director, HSE Estates
Ms. Mary Gorry, Assistant National Director of HR, Dublin – Mid Leinster
Mr. Declan Lyons, Assistant National Director of Finance, Dublin – Mid Leinster
Mr. Gerry O'Neill, Assistant National Director, HSE, Dublin – Mid Leinster
Dr. Phil Jennings, Director of Public Health, Dublin- Mid Leinster
Ms. Dymphna Bracken, Area Communications Manager, HSE, Dublin- Mid Leinster
Ms. E. Brophy, RHO, Dublin – Mid Leinster

**10:01:01 Adoption of minutes of meeting of the Regional Health Forum,
Dublin-Mid Leinster held on Tuesday, 15th December, 2009.**

On the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. P. Belton, the minutes were adopted.

10:01:02 Chairperson's Correspondence

Cllr. M. Dollard, Chairperson advised the meeting that he had received correspondence from Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council informing him that Cllr. Pat Hand had replaced Cllr. Tom Joyce on the Dublin – Mid Leinster Regional Health Forum.

**10:01:03 Regional Health Forum Dublin – Mid Leinster Annual Report
2009**

Members noted the above report.

10:01:04 HSE Update – Service Plan 2010

Regional HSE Managers presented reports on various aspects of the Service Plan 2010 as follows:

- Mr. Gerry O'Dwyer, Regional Director of Operations – Overview
- Mr. Declan Lyons, Assistant National Director of Finance- Funding Status
- Ms. Mary Gorry, Assistant National Director HR – Human Resources
- Mr. Gerry O'Neill, Assistant National Director, HSE – Primary Care Services, Services for Older People, Disability Services, Mental Health Services, Social Inclusion, Children Families
- Ms. Louise McMahon, Hospital Network Manager, Dublin South – Overview – Acute Hospitals Dublin – Mid Leinster

Following the above presentations members raised the following issues:

- Capital Programme
- "Vision for Change"
- Review of medical cards
- Genetic Services, Crumlin Hospital
- Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore – mixed wards
- Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore – Activity Levels
- Profile of Services South Dublin area
- Cystic Fibrosis Services – St. Vincent's Hospital
- Loughlinstown Hospital
- Services for Older People – 100 beds Clonskeagh
- 50 beds Inchicore (replacement Bru Caoimhin)

- Service implications of 2010 budget
- Rewards for Hospitals delivering services efficiently
- Capital Plan – Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise

In response to query regarding Capital Programme, Mr. Jim Curran stated that when ministerial approval is received he will revert to Forum members and present an overview of details of the Plan.

In response to query regarding “Vision for Change”, Mr. Gerry O’Dwyer stated that he would arrange for Mr. Martin Rogan to attend a future forum meeting and make a presentation on this issue.

In response to query regarding review of medical cards, Mr. Gerry O’Dwyer stated that the current industrial action by staff in HSE had impacted on this service. Mr. O’Dwyer stated that he was due to meet with Local Health Managers to review the situation and tackle the challenge to reduce waiting times. Mr. O’Dwyer also stated that the deployment of staff to Swine Flu Vaccination Clinics also has an effect on this service.

In response to query regarding genetic services in Crumlin Hospital, Mr. Gerry O’Dwyer stated that he would make arrangements for Prof. A. Green to make a presentation at a future Forum meeting in this regard.

In response to query regarding activity levels in Midland Regional Hospital Tullamore, Mr. John Bulfin stated that 68% of activity is emergency services. Mr. Bulfin stated that orthopaedic services were very busy during the bad weather when many fractures had to be treated. Mr. Bulfin also stated that more patients were treated in Tullamore Hospital than targeted in the Service Plan and that targets would be reached again this year.

In response to query regarding mixed wards in the Midland Regional Hospital Tullamore, Mr. Bulfin stated that this situation is managed on a day to day basis.

In response to query regarding profile of services in South Dublin area, Mr. Gerry O’Dwyer stated that arrangements will be made for HSE managers to meet with Forum members locally.

In response to query regarding cystic fibrosis services in St. Vincent’s Hospital, Ms. Louise Mc Mahon stated that a new ward dedicated to cystic fibrosis opened at St. Vincents Hospital in 2009 and that the next phase of development of this service was already underway.

In response to query regarding services at Loughlinstown Hospital, Mr. O’Dwyer stated that the HSE will be in contact with Wicklow County Council members to arrange a meeting to discuss this issue.

In response to query regarding 100 beds provided for older people in Clonskeagh Mr. G. O'Dwyer stated that these are replacement beds for Sir Patrick Dunnes, and Baggot Street.

In response to query regarding 50 beds for older people in Inchicore, Mr. O'Dwyer stated that these beds are replacement for beds previously located at Bru Caoimhin.

In response to query regarding 2010 budget implications, Mr. Declan Lyons stated that targets were achieved last year and it is anticipated that targets will be achieved in 2010. Mr. Lyons also stated that the moratorium on staff recruitment is the biggest challenge this year.

In response to query regarding compensation for hospitals delivering services efficiently, Ms. Louise McMahon stated that Casemix system provides for this.

In response to query regarding capital plan for Midland Regional Hospital, Portlaoise, Mr. John Bulfin stated no details are available until the Capital Plan is issued. Mr. Bulfin also stated that there are no plans to reduce A&E Services at the Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise.

10:01:05 Presentation – Suicide Prevention

This item was deferred until the next meeting – Acute Hospital Services and Population Health and Primary Community and Continuing Care Joint Committee scheduled to take place on 16th March 2010.

Any Other Business

Cllr. A. Davitt requested Mr. Gerry O'Neill and Mr. Gerry O'Dwyer to meet with Longford/Westmeath Forum members regarding the future of St. Loman's. Members agreed that this meeting should be held on campus of St. Loman's Hospital, Mullingar.

Mr. Gerry O'Dwyer thanked those involved from all the services in dealing with problems caused by recent flooding and praised them for their efficient response to problems.

10:01:06 Motions

Motion 1

That the HSE would provide details of the numbers of people in Co. Westmeath receiving a) rent allowances and b) mortgage supplements

Cllr. M. Dollard

A response in reply to this motion was prepared by Mr. Gerry O'Neill, Assistant National Director, HSE. This report was noted by the Forum

Motion 2.

That the HSE initiate an immediate enquiry into the management of Hygiene standards at the Adelaide and Meath , National Children's Hospital (AMNCH) at Tallaght Dublin in light of the Health Information and Quality Authority (HiQA) report as reported in the Irish Times on the 22/12/2009.

That an inspection be ordered by the HSE at the end of a 3 month period to ensure all necessary proposals in that enquiry have been implemented .

That all staff are reminded and if necessary disciplined for hygiene breaches including failure to hand wash at all or properly.

That if there were a private cleaning contractor involved that that contract be reviewed

That all cleaning staff receive in-service training regarding hand-washing and cleanliness and their important role in the fight against infection. Any previous training be reviewed for its effectiveness.

Cllr. E. Walsh

This motion was not moved as Cllr. Walsh did not attend the meeting.

Motion 3.

We wish to put a motion forward to the meeting for an update regarding the future plans for St. Loman's Hospital Mullingar.

Cllr. P.J. Reilly/Cllr. G. Brady

A response in reply to this motion was prepared by Mr. Gerry O'Neill, Assistant National Director, HSE. This report was noted by the Forum.

Motion 4.

That the HSE clearly set out the position in relation to St. Marys hospital and its ability to admit more patients in relation to issues with nursing management staff retiring and not being replaced.

Cllr. P. Burke

This motion was not moved as Cllr. Burke did not attend the meeting.

10:01:07 Questions

Responses to questions submitted were circulated to members.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: _____
Cllr. Michael Dollard
Chairperson

Date: _____