

Minutes of Regional Health Forum, Dublin – Mid Leinster Meeting held on Tuesday 19th April 2011 at the Boardroom, HSE Dublin – Mid Leinster Offices, Block 4, Central Business Park, Clonminch, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

Present:

Cllr. D. O’Callaghan, (Vice-Chairperson)	Cllr. P. Belton
Cllr. V. Blake	Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne
Cllr. G. Brady	Cllr. F. Browne
Cllr. T. Cullen	Cllr. A. Davitt
Cllr. M. Dollard	Cllr. P. Doran
Cllr. T. Fox	Cllr. P. Hand
Cllr. G. Horkan	Cllr. I. Keatley
Cllr. C. King	Cllr. S. Langan
Cllr. T. McKeigue	Cllr. G. O’Connell
Cllr. P.J. Reilly	Cllr. J. Ryan
Cllr. E. Walsh	

Apologies:

Cllr. M. Devine
Cllr. C. NiDhalaigh
Cllr. K. O’Brien
Cllr. M. Duff
Cllr. J. Foley

In Attendance:

Mr. John Cregan, Director, RHO, Dublin – Mid Leinster
Mr. Gerry O’Dwyer, Regional Director of Operations, Dublin – Mid Leinster,
Mr. Gerry O’Neill, Integrated Service Area Manager
Ms. Dymphna Bracken, Communications Manager, Dublin – Mid Leinster
Ms. Eileen Brophy, RHO, Dublin – Mid Leinster

11:02:01 Adoption of minutes of meeting of the Regional Health Forum, Dublin – Mid Leinster held on Tuesday, 15th March 2011

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne seconded by Cllr. P. Belton, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th March 2011 were adopted.

11:02:02 Chairperson’s Correspondence

Cllr. D. O’Callaghan, Vice-Chairperson informed the meeting that he had been notified as follows by:

- Wicklow County Council that Cllr. Vincent Blake had replaced Cllr. Simon Harris on the Dublin – Mid Leinster Regional Health Forum.
- South Dublin County Council that Cllr. Máire Devine had replaced Cllr. Sean Crowe on the Dublin – Mid Leinster Regional Health Forum.
- Kildare County Council that Cllr. Ivan Keatley had replaced Cllr. Martin Heydon on the Dublin – Mid Leinster Regional Health Forum and that Cllr. Paddy Kennedy had resigned from the Regional Health Forum.

Cllr. D. O’Callaghan welcomed Cllr Ivan Keatley and Cllr. Vincent Blake to their first meeting of the Regional Health Forum.

Members extended good wishes to Cllr. Paddy Kennedy on his resignation from the Regional Health Forum.

Forum members observed a minute’s silence to express sympathy to Cllr. Vincent Blake on the death of his father.

Cllr. O’Callaghan stated that he had received a letter of appreciation from the Japanese Embassy acknowledging receipt of the Forum’s recent letter expressing its sympathy to the Japanese people through their ambassador to Ireland.

Cllr. P.J. Reilly requested information regarding allocation of funding by the HSE to traveller health in Longford. Mr. Gerry O’Neill stated that allocation of budgets to all agencies was being reviewed by local management teams. A copy of a recent press release issued by the HSE dealing specifically with the Traveller Health Unit was provided to Cllr. Reilly.

Following requests by a number of Forum members, it was agreed that the AGM of the Regional Health Forum Dublin – Mid Leinster (scheduled to take place on 19th July 2011) would now take place on 5th July 2011.

Cllr. T. McKeigue stated that some medical card reviews were taking place on a monthly basis. It was agreed to check the situation regarding this matter and revert to Cllr. McKeigue.

Cllr. M. Dollard asked if there an opening date for St. Mary’s Hospital. Mr. Gerry O’Dwyer responded that he would inform Cllr. Dollard of the opening date.

Members expressed concerns regarding services in Emergency Dept., Naas Hospital and Mr. G. O'Dwyer stated that Dr. Garry Courtney would be providing a presentation later at the meeting regarding clinical programmes which help solve problems in Emergency Departments e.g. delayed discharges.

Cllr. P. Doran expressed concerns regarding ambulance service in Arklow/Wexford area. In response to query regarding ambulance service, Mr. Gerry O'Dwyer stated that response times are currently being monitored and that the new call system for the ambulance service will be fully implemented by the end of 2011. Mr. O'Dwyer also stated that an overview of the regional ambulance services will be provided to members later this year.

11:02:03 HSE Update: Overview Acute Medicine Programmes

Dr. Gary Courtney, Consultant Physician and Programme Lead updated members regarding the Acute Medicine Programme as follows:

Dr. Courtney stated that a team has been set up to implement the Acute Medicine Programme across the health service.

Dr. Courtney also stated that meetings have been held in various hospitals and that engagement had taken place with the relevant staff in those regions. He also confirmed that visits had taken place to the Midland Regional Hospitals at Mullingar, Portlaoise and Tullamore, and also to Naas General Hospital.

Acute Medicine is one of 20 care programmes to be established and rolled out during the year.

To ensure that Members are up to date and aware of all the Clinical Programmes to be rolled out, another update will be provided to the Forum in the autumn.

Members welcomed the report.

11:02:04 Motions

Motion 1:

That the HSE would provide a report re provision of a secure unit for severely disturbed psychiatric patients on the campus of St. Loman's Hospital, Mullingar

Cllr. M. Dollard

A response to this motion was prepared by Mr. Gerry O'Neill, Area Manager, HSE Dublin – Mid Leinster. Members noted the report.

Motion 2:

We wish to put a motion forward calling on the HSE to outline the procurement arrangement in place for the engagement of agency nursing services.

Cllr. P.J. Reilly, G. Brady, P. Belton.

A response to this motion was prepared by Ms. Mary Gorry, Assistant National Director, Human Resources. Following discussion it was agreed that a copy of Press Release issued by HSE regarding tender for agency nurses would be provided to Cllr. Reilly, Brady and Belton. Members noted the report.

Motion 3.

That the HSE report on proposed changes in the delivery of services contained in the new programme for Government and to further outline regarding any changes made to date.

Cllr. D. O'Callaghan

A response to this motion was prepared by Mr. Gerry O'Dwyer, Regional Director of Operations. Following further discussion Cllr. O'Callaghan raised the issue of provision of Child Care Services, Mr. O'Dwyer stated that he will provide a full report on Child Care Services at a future meeting. Members noted the report.

11.02:05 Questions

Responses to questions submitted were circulated to members.

Signed: _____
Cllr. Denis O'Callaghan
Vice-Chairperson

Date: _____