

Minutes of Regional Health Forum, Dublin – Mid Leinster Meeting held on Tuesday 20th April 2010 at the Boardroom HSE Dublin – Mid Leinster Offices, Block 4, Central Business Park, Clonminch, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

Present:

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| Cllr. W. Aird | Cllr. P. Belton |
| Cllr. G. Brady | Cllr. P. Burke |
| Cllr. C. Byrne | Cllr. S. Crowe |
| Cllr. T. Cullen | Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne |
| Cllr. M. Dollard (Chairperson) | Cllr. A. Davitt |
| Cllr. P. Doran | Cllr. M. Freehill |
| Cllr. P. Hand | Cllr. K. Humphreys |
| Cllr. G. Horkan | Cllr. P. Kennedy |
| Cllr. C. King | Cllr. S. Langan |
| Cllr. R. Moynihan | Cllr. T. McKeigue |
| Cllr. C. NiDhalaigh | Cllr. K. O'Brien |
| Cllr. G. O'Connell | Cllr. F. O'Loughlin |
| Cllr. P.J. Reilly | Cllr. J. Ryan |
| Cllr. E. Walsh | |

Apologies:

Cllr. F. Browne
Cllr. J. Foley
Cllr. M. Heydon
Cllr. D. O'Callaghan

In attendance:

Mr. Gerry O'Dwyer, Regional Director of Operations, Dublin – Mid Leinster
Mr. John Bulfin, Hospital Network Manager, Dublin Midlands Area
Mr. Jim Curran, Assistant National Director, HSE Estates
Ms. Dymphna Bracken, Area Communications Manager, HSE, Dublin – Mid Leinster
Mr. Liam O'Callaghan, Local Health Manager, Laois/Offaly

10:02:01 Adoption of minutes of meeting of the Regional Health Forum, Dublin - Mid Leinster held on Tuesday, 16th February 2010.

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

10:02:02 Chairperson's Correspondence

Cllr. M. Dollard, Chairperson advised the meeting that he had been advised by South Dublin County Council that Cllr. Brian Lawlor had replaced Cllr. Emma Coburn on the Dublin – Mid Leinster Regional Health Forum.

**10:02:03 Noting of Report of Joint Committee Chairperson
for the Acute Hospital Services and Population Health and
Primary Community Care Committees.**

Members noted the above report.

10:02:04 HSE Update – Primary Care Teams

Mr. Liam O’Callaghan, Local Health Manager, Laois/Offaly made a presentation on Primary Care Teams.

Following the presentation a detailed discussion, took place on Primary Care Teams and related matters.

10:02:05 Motions

Motion 1

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 the 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

The HSE report on this motion was noted by members.

Motion 2:

This Regional Health Forum, in view of the statements given by the HSE regarding thousands of unread GP letters and X-Rays at Tallaght

Hospital and the concern expressed regarding the possibility of this practice happening in other hospitals, calls for an updated report on the situation in Tallaght, for an up-to-date position regarding the ongoing enquiries and audit into other hospitals in the State, on how many have yet to respond to their request and what initial findings they have made.

Cllr. S. Crowe

The HSE report on this motion was noted by members.

Motion 3.

In relation to Mullingar Midland Regional Hospital, 6 additional beds have been opened in the Observation Ward bringing the number of beds from 12 to 18, a 50% increase. This change proceeded without any consultation with staff. No additional staff have been allocated to the ward despite the increase in beds by 50%. As a result on night duty in particular the second nurse is regularly deployed to other areas in the hospital, leaving one staff nurse and at times one HCA to provide care to 18 patients. Circumstances such as this place patients in jeopardy and militate against safe standards of practice. I call on the HSE to explain why patients and nurses at Mullingar Midland Regional Hospital were put in this position and I seek your guarantee that 2 nurses on nights and 1 HCA (the second nurse on nights must be guaranteed) be allocated to the Observation Ward.

Cllr. P. Burke.

The HSE report on this motion was noted by members.

Motion 4.

In view of the recent increased ceiling to €120.00 per Month for the Drugs Refund Scheme, that this Forum recommend a total review of the Scheme by the Minister For Health and Children as many people are falling short of the ceiling.

Cllr. T. McKeigue

The HSE report on this motion was noted by members.

Motion 5.

That the local manager for older persons services (Dublin West, HSE) confirm the closure of Bru Chaoimhin Nursing home on Cork Street, Dublin 8, can they also confirm how many patients will be transferred from this facility to the new 50 bed community nursing unit in Inchicore, and will they explain how this will affect the previously

agreed commitment of 18% allocation of beds for elderly people from the Inchicore, Kilmainham area

Cllr. C. Byrne

The HSE report on this motion was noted by members.

10:02:06 Questions

Responses to questions submitted were circulated to members.

Any Other Business

A number of Councillors requested local meetings in relation to some areas of concern. Cllr. M. Dollard, Chairperson agreed to ask the HSE to organise these as appropriate. A discussion on home care packages took place and HSE response was noted by members.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: _____
Cllr. M. Dollard
Chairperson

Date: _____