



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oideachas Gairmiúil
Gairmeoirí Sláinte agus Cúram Sóisialta
Stiúrthóireacht Achmhainní Daonna
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Páirc Mheirlinne
Gaillimh

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Health and Social Care Professionals Education and Development Advisory Group

In October representatives of some 20 Health and Social Care Professions were brought together to establish a Health and Social Care Professionals Education and Development Advisory Group. The purpose of the Advisory Group is to:

- Act as a clearing house for issues related to H&SCP and to form specific groups to deal with issues as needed
- Provide an opportunity for professions to have a 'voice' and for the HSE to take advice from professions
- Influence the direction of Education Training and Research (ETR) in the organisation
- Provide an opportunity for shared learning
- Identify commonalities as well as differences
- Model and reinforce interdisciplinary working and learning

At a workshop to commence this development a number of strong common themes emerged:

- Continuing professional development
- Standardization of education/training approach – clinical placements
- Sharing experience and networking
- Interprofessional education
- Workforce planning and fitness to practise

Significant work was achieved in relation to how the group would function, formation of a small workable advisory group, connectivity and communication with the wider group of professionals and the development of priority areas including achievable goals for the first year.

This development takes place in the context of legislative and policy developments in recent years that have seen the role of the health services in the education and training of health professionals clarified and strengthened. In response to these changes the HSE is developing a more unified and structured approach to its roles and responsibilities in this area. The publication of 'The Education and Development of Health and Social Care Professionals in the Health Services 2009 – 2014', together with developments in Medical Education and Training, the Education, Training and Research Committee and development of structures within HR to deal with this area are also catalysts.