

# Connecting DNCC



Spring 2023

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James' Marathon Journey



Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2018-2022

Healthy Ireland Conference 2023



Kisiizi Hospital, Uganda

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Welcome to your Spring edition of Connecting DNCC. It's been a busy period across our CHO since the new year and we hope that you're all enjoying the brighter days of Spring.

This edition includes some wonderful features that highlight the great work and achievements of our Colleagues both personally and professionally.

As always, we're delighted to receive your submissions, so please keep sending us in any articles, photographs or topics that you'd like us to cover, or let us know how we can improve. You can email us anytime at: [comms.dncc@hse.ie](mailto:comms.dncc@hse.ie)

## CHO DNCC Comms Team

## Follow us on social media:



[@HSECHODNCC](https://twitter.com/HSECHODNCC)



[@Community Healthcare Organisation  
Dublin North City and County](https://www.linkedin.com/company/community-healthcare-organisation-dublin-north-city-and-county)



[Communications CHO DNCC](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



[@HSECHODNCC](https://www.instagram.com/HSECHODNCC)



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# A Message from our Chief Officer

Mellany McLoone, Chief Officer

Welcome to the first edition of Connecting DNCC for 2023 which is packed full of great stories from some of our staff who have done, and continue to do, amazing things in both their professional and personal lives.

A key objective of our CHO Operational Plan for 2023 is to continue to implement Sláintecare within our CHO in a way that is meaningful to both staff and our community. Following extensive engagement with our staff and stakeholders, you have identified five key actions for delivery in 2023 which will support us to implement Sláintecare.

1. Our Community Health Networks (CHNs) will be well established and embedded in the communities they serve. Local residents and those working in, and with the health service, will understand the services available in their local CHN and how to access those services. The profile and brand of the local CHN will be recognised in the community.

2. Implement a single point of referral for service users coming into and leaving the Network. The referral processes will be clear and accessible to all stakeholders, including General Practitioners.

3. Developed targeted programmes to train our CHO DNCC workforce to meet the needs of the health service. This will include skill development, leadership training and career pathways.

4. Continue to improve digital health supports available to frontline clinicians. These additional initiatives and technological advances will support improved access to services by reducing the administrative burden on front line clinicians and improve the recording of case notes etc.

5. Amplified effective strategies for reducing health inequalities across the CHO. This includes learning from and scaling up current health promotion and improvement activities which will enhance the health of the population across CHO DNCC.

In practical terms, for the population residing within a specific CHN, there is a single co-ordinated point of access for all services. A CHN will comprise of a number of Primary Care Teams (PCT's) and they will also have access to specialist services such as children's disability, adult mental health, CAMHS, Chronic Disease, Health & Wellbeing, Specialist Teams for Older People, Adult Disabilities, Dental, Orthodontics, Ophthalmology and Audiology.

All staff working directly in or aligned to a CHN will have collectively responsibility for providing health and social care services to their population. The PCT's and Specialist Teams will continue to work together for the same population. These Teams will be empowered to make timely decisions to improve access and capacity to deliver care.

Finally, I want to express my thanks to all of you for your ongoing work, commitment and professionalism.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Connecting DNCC.

Kind Regards,



# A DAY IN THE LIFE

with  
**James Barry -  
Service Manager  
Dublin North City  
Mental Health  
Services**

James Barry, a Wicklow native, trained to be a PE teacher in IT Tralee (now Munster University). Having always had a “curiosity about how the HSE works and what happened to people as they go from youth into adult life and the supports available to them when they needed them”, he now finds himself working as a Service Manager for the Dublin North City Mental Health Service.

“I did my undergraduate degree in Health Fitness and Leisure Studies in IT Tralee and then more recently, my Masters in DIT (now TU Dublin) in Child, Family and Community Studies, followed by Project Management Training and I’ve just finished a Specialist Diploma in Quality Management – Lean Healthcare Systems.”

“I love Education and it’s given me so many opportunities and friendships.” Speaking about his career path, James explains “this is not where I planned to be, but I’m very glad I ended up here. I like to take chances. Each job I have had has lead on to the next one and then the next one, I’ve never had a five year plan.”

Prior to working in the HSE, James worked for Jigsaw who provide mental health supports for people across Ireland aged 12-25. Before that there was stint as a Sports Inclusion Disability Officer with Meath Local Sports Partnership and there was also a year spent working for the National Youth Council of Ireland as a Health Promotion Officer.

James recalls fondly his 10 years working for Jigsaw. He tells me that one of his career highlights was that he was the Service Manager who oversaw the opening of the first Jigsaw facility in Dublin. Until then there had been no services targeting that group. When I left, we had two locations and 16 staff so I’m very proud of that one.”

“ *when I see my team complete a project that they are all really happy and proud of; seeing their reaction can be very rewarding* ”

James is quick to add that he has been very lucky throughout his career. “I’ve been blessed in my jobs to work with such good people. In my current role, I have to mention Fiona Davis, Deputy Service Manager. Since joining the HSE a little over one year ago she has been an incredible help to me as have all my colleagues and the management team.”

Another memorable moment from James’ time in Jigsaw was in March 2020, just before we went into the first COVID-19 lockdown, when he welcomed the Prince and Princess of Wales while they were on a visit to Dublin. “William and Kate were lovely to meet and very interested and complimentary about the work that we were doing.”

In the current day job, James outlines that his responsibilities are broad. “My main responsibility is the safe and efficient running of the service here in Dublin North City. A lot of that is budget management and spending appropriately, in line with financial regulations. I’d also work very closely with Estates on any new developments or new projects. I have responsibility for making sure that all of our buildings are functional and safe and meet the needs of our staff and service users.”

Managing a team of six, who in turn manage a team of about 70, James explains that his role requires him to be agile and responsive on a daily basis. “You can have a day planned but something might happen at X or Y location that needs an immediate response. We might have staffing challenges, or a challenge around a building or another event that we were not expecting.”

“Awareness around legislation and of the Mental Health Act, for example, are vital for me. I have to make sure we are compliant with this Act and that we are meeting criteria as set by the Mental health Commission.”

Working in mental health can be extremely rewarding. “The nature of the work requires you to practice a lot of self-care” James explains. “You can be exposed to a lot of sadness, dealing with a lot of difficult situations so it’s important that you deal with that so that it doesn’t impact you personally.

There is a flipside, where we get exposed to a lot of hope and joy where you see people with difficulties getting a really great service that makes a real difference and it has to be said it’s our staff on the ground who make that possible.”

“There can be a lot of other positives too where we were able to bring someone’s story to a good conclusion, or when I see my team complete a project that they are all really happy and proud of; seeing their reaction can be very rewarding.”

To unwind, James says he participates in triathlons! “Yeah, triathlons are my main pastime these days. I had completed about five marathons and then about four years ago in Athy, Co. Kildare, I did my first triathlon. I enjoyed the marathons but at times found them a bit isolating and that’s how I came to triathlons. To be honest I couldn’t really swim that well, or cycle that well either, so it was very much a social thing for me. I’ve gone on now to complete about 20 including one in Denmark and the UK.”

As for holiday plans for the year ahead, James tells me that he is exchanging nuptials this April and that most of his planning at the moment is taken up with seating plans and table plans. “My cousin is getting married the week after us in Venice and I’m honoured to be walking her up the aisle so we’re going to that and as for a honeymoon, we haven’t yet decided where we’ll land on yet but we’ll go somewhere nice later in the year”.



*James with his former colleagues from Jigsaw*



*James pictured above with Kate Middleton, Princess of Wales*

Asked for parting words of wisdom or advice James is keen to speak to those who may be struggling or going through a difficult time, “just really for people to know that there is always a light in the dark, there is always hope and someone to speak to” – sound advice from a sound person.



Front Row L-R: Michelle Holmes, HR Business Manager, Roisin Lowry, Health Promotion & Improvement/Health & Wellbeing Manager, Sarah McCormack, National Healthy Ireland Lead, Ellen O'Dea, Head of Service - Health & Wellbeing, CHO DNCC, Sheena Rafferty, Dietician Manager, Doreen Carpenter, Mental Health Service Co-Ordinator for Travellers. Back Row L-R: Sandra Taylor, Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention, Maresa McGettigan, Healthy Ireland Co-Ordinator, Rachel Fitzgerald, Mental Health Business Manager, Bernadette Rooney, Addiction Service Manager, Social Inclusion and Donal Cassidy, Head of Service - Mental Health, CHO DNCC

## CHO DNCC Healthy Ireland Conference 2023

On the 1st March 2023, CHO DNCC hosted a conference in Croke Park to bring together all the stakeholders in our Healthy Ireland Plan. The conference was addressed by CHO DNCC Chief Officer, Mellany McLoone and showcased the achievements, research, innovation and practice across the 11 action areas over the five years of the plan.

Keynote speakers at the conference included Dr Helen McAvoy, Director of Policy Institute of Public Health, Dr Paul Kavanagh, HSE Tobacco Free Ireland Programme, and Professor Niall Moyna, Professor of Clinical Exercise Physiology, Dublin City University. There was a wide range of services showcased with information on health and wellbeing initiatives. There was also 23 excellent speakers within the breakout rooms.



L-R: Dr Deirdre Mulholland, Area Director of Public Health, RHA Area A, Dr Niall Moyna, Professor of Clinical Exercise Physiology in the School of Health and Human Performance, Ellen O'Dea, Head of Service - Health & Wellbeing and Mellany McLoone, Chief Officer, CHO DNCC

Published in 2018, the plan set out to refocus health services from provision of acute care to a strong emphasis on keeping people healthy and creating conditions which support good health, in accordance with the Healthy Ireland Framework (2013-2025).

The local plan set out 91 specific actions across the following 11 actions areas:

- Healthy Childhood
- Positive Ageing
- Tobacco Free Ireland
- Alcohol and Health
- Sexual Health
- Wellbeing and Mental Health
- Healthy Eating and Active Living
- Making Every Contact Count
- Self-management Support
- Strengthening Partnerships
- Staff Health and Wellbeing



Click the below link to access the CHO DNCC Healthy Ireland Plan Highlight Report 2023. This report focuses on the progress on the delivery of the local five year Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan:

[CHO DNCC Healthy Ireland](#)

**COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE ORGANISATION**  
*DUBLIN NORTH CITY & COUNTY*



# Healthy Ireland Implementation Plan 2018-2022



# Healthy Ireland Conference 2023



Danielle Monaghan, Age Friendly Ireland



Ben Lindsay, Health Promotion and Improvement Officer, CHO DNCC



Julija Kuts, Cairde Balbriggan



Ita Madden, Regional Co-Ordinator, Traveller Mental Health



L-R: Karen Halligan, Administration & Information Officer and Katie McIntyre, Singstrong Administrator, COPD Support Ireland

# Healthy Ireland Conference 2023



L-R: Thomas McCabe, Physical Trainer and Cormac Walsh, Development Officer, Siel Bleu Ireland

Dr Niall Moyna, Professor of Clinical Exercise Physiology in the School of Health and Human Performance



L-R: Joanne Brennan, Ana Dalton, Grainne McCaffrey, Dementia Adviser's, Alzheimer's Society of Ireland



L-R: Roisin Lowry, Health Promotion & Improvement/Health & Wellbeing Manager, Sarah McCormack, National Healthy Ireland Lead, Maresa McGettigan, Healthy Ireland Co-Ordinator, Dr Paul Kavanagh, Public Health Advisor to the HSE Tobacco Free Ireland Programme, Dr Helen McAvoy, Director of Policy, Institute of Public Health in Ireland, Greg Stratton, Assistant Principal Officer, Healthy Ireland, Department of Health, Ellen O'Dea, Head of Service - Health & Wellbeing and Mellany McLoone, Chief Officer, CHO DNCC



Ellen O'Dea, Head of Service, Health & Wellbeing, CHO DNCC



L-R: Georgie Mellotte, Food & Nutrition Worker, Derek Murphy, Stop Smoking & We Can Quit Advisor, Jackie Ryan, Health & Wellbeing Co-Ordinator, and Niamh McTiernan, Director of Services - all with Northside Partnership



Health Promotion & Improvement Officers and members of the Healthy Ireland Event Working Group: Clodhna Kirwan, Sonia McDermott, Maresa McGettigan, Aine O'Rourke, Sowmya Paul and David Gavin.

# Niamh Martin Visits Kisiizi Hospital Uganda

## “What can you do in just two weeks?”

This was put to me when I ran a coffee morning in Larkhill Health Centre in 2020 to raise funds for Kisiizi Hospital in Uganda. I was ambitious, with great aspirations of a hugely productive and impactful trip to work with fellow health professionals in a Ugandan Hospital.

Prior to departure, I sat in a medical reception completing forms for various vaccines in Parnell Street. In the background, was the ominous hum of headlines on the unknown that was COVID-19. The hum became a roar and within weeks our trip to Uganda was unfortunately cancelled.

**CHEERS was set up by a group of healthcare professionals in 2015. CHEERS aim is:**

*“Developing Healthcare Together works alongside Kisiizi Hospital staff and the local community to develop a number of healthcare projects and provide further education and training.”*

Two years passed and I found myself sitting in front of my Director of Public Health Nursing requesting support for a two week trip to Kisiizi Hospital with the organisation CHEERS. Both Nursing Management and General Management were hugely supportive of my endeavour and encouraged my participation.



*Niamh with Kisiizi staff and regional health care workers at a two day Workshop*

Every year a group of health professionals travel to Kisiizi with the above objective. The 2022 team involved two Physiotherapists, two Speech and Language Therapists, two Pharmacists, one Occupational Therapist, one Dietician and for the first year one nurse - Me!

Prior to departure, significant preparation work had to be completed. Stu Garret and his team at CHEEERS were hugely supportive. As a group, we prepared workshop content that would be delivered during our visit. We liaised with various health professionals working in Kisiizi and engaged with them on the supports we could offer. Based on their feedback we developed project plans and resources that we could bring with us to work with when we arrived.

### Arriving in Uganda

No amount of information will prepare you for your visit. I was flooded with nerves and anxiety. Unfortunately, this wasn't helped by two bus breakdowns from the airport to our new home for the two weeks. Luckily Bernie (Chief Physiotherapist) had a plaster that wrapped around one of the engine wires and we rattled on to our abode.



*Aileen Kelly (left) and Emma Jones (right) Speech and Language Therapists giving education sessions to nursing staff on a medical ward*



*Kisiizi staff utilising the sliding sheets for patient moving and handling*



*Nursing staff measuring the length of the finger to approximate wound size for future wound assessments*



*Wound dressing equipment utilised by Kisiizi staff*



*Bernie Donnellan (Physiotherapist) trialling the home rehab equipment supported by Kisiizi Rehab Department within the community*

When we arrived, we were welcomed with open arms by the staff of the hospital and were ready to hit the ground running. Every day started with chapel, the African drums would wake your bones like a warm hug every morning.

We all worked with various health professionals sharing expertise and supports. I worked with the surgical ward team. I met a fantastic nurse called Samson, who was eager to learn and welcoming. Together we reviewed work practices and formulated a wound care chart. This was put in place to support continuity of care and provide accountability for practice. Rather than bringing documentation we use in Ireland we formulated a wound chart together listing the dressings they had available and common wound types they treat. I worked closely with the team and demonstrated how the chart would be used in practice.

In other areas, we worked interdisciplinary. Persons requiring enteral feeding via a Nasogastric Tube were supported with evidence based practice by our two SLTs.

The team in Kisiizi held education sessions and engaged me when the practical aspect of aspirating a Nasogastric Tube required a demonstration.

In addition, we supported staff with healthcare equipment such as sliding sheets. There were no hoists in the hospital and sliding sheets offered some reprieve to the health staff when moving and handling a patient.

All disciplines set out collaborative goals with their respective areas within Kisiizi. We were welcomed by the School of Nursing who facilitated workshops led out by our team. On a larger scale we ran a two day workshop that focused on care for older persons. Uganda is seeing a growing life expectancy, due to advancing healthcare and education. Health professionals from Kisiizi and a variety of other healthcare settings in the locality were invited to take part.

Workshop topics included; dementia care, pressure area care, bone health, nutrition and hydration and oral care.

All focused on supporting a population that is living longer.

We had the opportunity to experience some of the outreach work that is led by Kisiizi hospital. We saw the same ethos of primary care in operation in the local towns and villages around Kisiizi hospital that we have here in Ireland. People with disabilities received physiotherapy and occupational therapy in the community and education was provided to young girls in schools on sexual health.

As well as the professional links we made with various staff, they made it feel like we were part of their team. We were welcomed to their homes for dinner and played sports with them in the evening. We exchanged numbers and send well wishes and are still in contact with them. This trip was the highlight of my year and a tonic.

I am grateful for the wonderful opportunity and I hope I will return soon to see my friends in Kisiizi.

To find out more information about the work of CHEERS please click on the link below:

<https://cheersvolunteers.wixsite.com/cheers/about-us>

# Graduating in Professional Post Grad Diploma in Leadership and Management

**Name:** John Carew

**Title:** Disability Service Manager in CHO DNCC.

**Course:** Professional Post Grad Diploma in Leadership and Management delivered in the Irish Management Institute through the Health Service Leadership Academy.

**Course Details:** This course aims to dramatically enhance your practical leadership skills, awareness, impact and judgement while also helping you master the skills you need to be a more confident, well-rounded and inspirational leader.

**John's Experience:** I started in September 2019 with a group from all over country. The professions ranged from Pharmacists to Paramedics. It was a great opportunity to network and learn from other professions. I was extremely lucky to have had the support of the management in CHO DNCC. I completed this course while working full-time, which would not have been possible with the support of my colleagues.

**Challenges:** The biggest and most obvious challenge that I faced was the course being disrupted due to COVID-19 in March 2020. Thankfully the college were able to adapt and the course was completed online, finishing in January 2022.

**How have you benefitted from the course?** Completing the course has definitely helped me expand on my skillset. Especially in making an impact on leadership decisions.



## About the Health Service Leadership Academy

The Health Service Leadership Academy aims to develop leadership across the health service. We want to create a health service that puts patients, service users, carers and communities at the heart of everything we do. We want a safe, high quality service provided by engaged staff and compassionate leaders. The Health Service Leadership Academy is here to develop leaders, at every level and from every profession, who can help lead that change. You can find out more about the academy here:

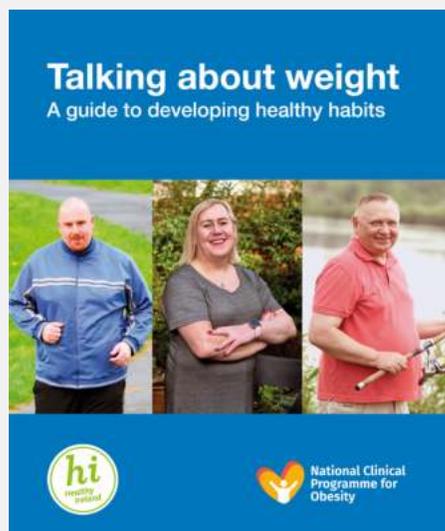
<https://healthservice.hse.ie/staff/training-and-development/health-service-leadership-academy/>

# Help with conversations about health and weight

A number of new resources have been developed by the HSE, with input from clinical experts and patients, which seek to support clinicians to engage in helpful conversations and interventions with patients about health and weight.

Clinicians report a reluctance to engage in conversations with patients about health and weight. This reluctance can relate to the awkward and potentially stigmatising nature of the conversation, as well as not having a clear intervention to offer.

Given the complexity of factors which can result in a person developing overweight and obesity, the focus for clinicians is not about providing weight loss advice. The primary focus is on engaging in supportive, non-stigmatising conversations that don't make assumptions about weight.



## New MECC Module on weight and obesity free on HSeLand

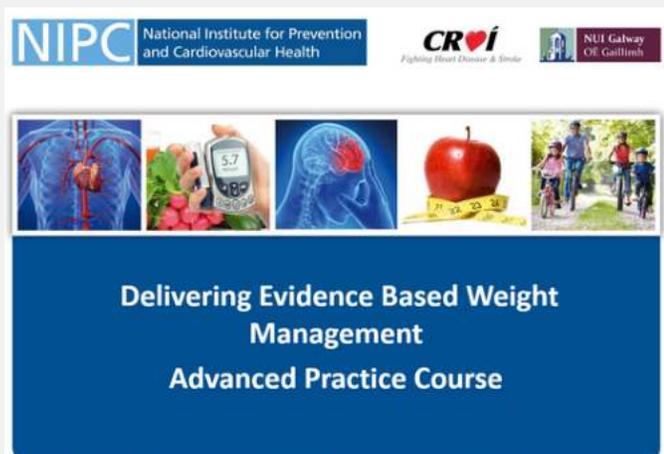
This module seeks to equip healthcare professionals with an understanding of the widespread weight bias and stigma faced by people living with overweight and obesity. Research shows that weight stigma in a healthcare setting can negatively affect the treatment people living with obesity receive from healthcare professionals. It provides healthcare professionals with an understanding of obesity as a chronic disease and how health behaviours relate to weight. It also demonstrates how a healthcare professional can address these topics in a supportive, non-judgemental way using brief interventions with their patients, as part of routine care.

'Talking about weight: a guide to healthy behaviours' is available free of charge from [www.healthpromotion.ie](http://www.healthpromotion.ie). The resource outlines the factors that can influence weight for individuals. It also provides guidance and tools for patients on taking steps to make changes in areas of diet, physical activity, stress and sleep that can help improve overall health and wellbeing.

## Managing weight and obesity in clinical practice

To support clinicians with assessment and clinical management of obesity a number of training and clinical practice resources are now available:

- Clinical Practice Guidelines on evidence-based weight management have been published and are available at: [www.asoi.info](http://www.asoi.info)
- An accredited course, funded by the HSE, on Delivering Evidence Based Weight Management: Advanced Practice is being offered by the National Institute for Preventative Cardiology ([www.nipc.ie](http://www.nipc.ie))





# FITNESS AND HURLING WITH NEPHEW - JOHN'S REWARD FOR QUITTING SMOKING

By Ann McLoone

The Donegal fields may be more synonymous with football than hurling but for John Duffy, Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention with the HSE in Dublin North City and County, hurling is the chosen discipline when playing with his nephew in his native county. John quit smoking last July and seven months later he points to his greater fitness levels in being able to play with the youngster as one of the distinct benefits.

Having previously worked with an NGO (Non Governmental Organisation), John joined the HSE in 2019 and, while acknowledging the many pressures of his job, he earnestly points to the many areas of satisfaction and rewards. It was during a career break from his NGO job some years ago that he became a regular smoker – a relatively late start by his own admission: “I started, quite foolishly, when I was 26 - I had been a bit of a social smoker before that. But then I went on a career break and I was effectively socialising all the time and started smoking on a more regular basis. Six months later when I returned to work I was a fully committed smoker.”

Over the next few years, John considered quitting several times and initially looked at the milestone of turning 30 as a good time to quit. However, that first attempt only lasted a few weeks: “I didn't have any external support – I was going it alone and so it was quite hard. There were a few other attempts after that but nothing really worked for me.”

It was another milestone birthday that again saw John focus on quitting. The prospect of his 40th birthday last year gave him cause for contemplation:

“

*I knew I really needed to nip this bad habit of mine.*

”

John explains how a fortuitous trip to the canteen in St Mary's Hospital in the Phoenix Park where he works, led him to meeting Nuala Cody, HSE Stop Smoking Advisor who, with her colleague, had a stand promoting the HSE Staff Quit Programme: “I was very lucky as I share a building with two HSE Stop Smoking Advisors.”

John subsequently met with Nuala who guided him in developing a plan, provided the personal and logistical support and ensured he had Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) patches and an inhaler.

It was a game changer: “We agreed a start date and I picked July 4th – my Independence Day from smoking!” He describes Nuala and the support she provided as “fantastic. She provided great advice and let me know that she would be there as a support for me during my quit journey. It was invaluable to have someone at the end of the phone that you knew you could ring and chat whenever needed.”

John adds: "She didn't put any pressure on me and explained that it may be best to choose a date when there may not be as many pressures on me. So I waited until I had finished a particular work strategy, but also made sure I had started my quit journey before I went on holidays in early August."

"And so when I quit last year I had a different experience from the other times. I had a plan and when I was going into social settings for example, I had material support in the form of NRT. So, on that very first day, for example, when I was meeting up with friends, I knew I was meeting with someone who was a smoker. But it didn't faze me at all being in that space with him. In the past that would have been an issue for me."

Inevitably there have been challenges: "I have had cravings on many occasions but I was able to follow the advice that Nuala had given me – delaying acting on the urge, distracting myself, drinking some water, deep breathing and if needed using my inhaler. And these were some of the tools that allowed me to ensure that the craving would pass. And it's really about employing preventative measures to stop yourself falling victim to those cravings. The research shows that the craving will only last for a few minutes and once you're able to manage it, it works."

It all became embedded, John explains. And while he laments that his partner still smokes, he notes that the numbers within his own social circle who smoke are declining.

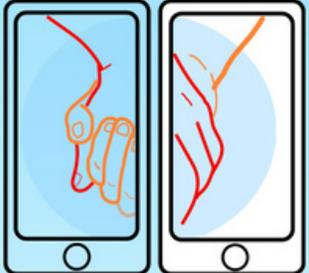
In the months immediately after last July John found himself realising that he "just wasn't a smoker any more. All the cravings went, I continued with the NRT for the recommended three months and after that I didn't feel I needed it any more. I am delighted to say I am seven months off now and have not taken one single puff of a cigarette since 4th July."

For John, it was the support from Nuala, the plan, the NRT and material help that ultimately led to this being his successful quit journey. The benefits of course have been significant: "The big one for me has been my health. Simple things – when I was a smoker I wouldn't have been able to play with my nieces and nephews for very long because I would be out of breath. But shortly after I had given up smoking, I was home in Donegal and out in the field playing hurling with my nephew for a few hours, whereas before I would only last maybe half an hour at most running around after him. So it is those noticeable, simple but important changes that give you great encouragement to stick with the journey. And of course it also helped to have some extra cash in my pocket that I was now keeping instead of spending on cigarettes."

Reflecting on advice he would offer anyone thinking about quitting, John notes how he had procrastinated a lot: "There never really is the perfect or the best time to quit. Just take the plunge – take advantage of the support out there. I found it immeasurably better for me having that support, having Nuala - she made the difference."



**IF YOU STOP SMOKING FOR 28 DAYS  
YOU'RE 5 TIMES MORE LIKELY TO**



**QUIT FOR GOOD**

**CALL OUR QUITLINE AT 1800 201 203**

# Are you or anyone you know interested in quitting smoking?

The HSE Stop Smoking Service in Dublin North City and County is a free friendly and supportive service open to anyone living in the area including HSE staff who would like to quit smoking. The service offers FREE stop smoking medication and weekly support on your quit journey from a HSE Stop Smoking Advisor.

Watch the video of local staff sharing their quit journeys:

<https://youtu.be/RB4z4BvddWY>

To register or refer for the service you can email [hwb.dncc@hse.ie](mailto:hwb.dncc@hse.ie) or phone **01-8976124** or scan the QR code across:



The service is now established in 18 sites across the CHO, you can see live links below which highlight the location, days and time of all clinics.

[Google Maps Link to Stop Smoking Service](#)



[Google Earth Link to Stop Smoking Service](#)



Stop Smoking Advisors offer support via face to face, phone or video sessions.

You are 4 times more likely to quit with our support and stop smoking medication than quitting alone.



## Laura Brennan HPV Vaccine Catch-up Programme

You can now book a HPV vaccine catch-up appointment if you are a:



Female aged 16 to 24 years

OR

Male aged 16 or older who started 1st year of secondary school, homeschool or a special school in 2019/2022, 2020/2021 or 2021/2022



A clinic will be held on the 11th May from 10.15am – 1.15pm in Croke Park

You can book an appointment for yourself or your child below:

[Book a HPV vaccine catch-up appointment](#)

Further clinics will be held in the coming months.

For more information on the vaccine and eligibility for the Laura Brennan HPV catch-up programme click here:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/immunisation/pubinfo/schoolprog/hpv/hpv-vaccine-catch-up-programme/>



# Staff Flu Vaccination Campaign 2022/2023

**Congratulations to all staff who have received their free flu vaccine over the course of the Flu Campaign 2022/23.**

During this season's Flu Campaign a total of 2,580 staff in CHO DNCC have been vaccinated, which is a 59 percent uptake for staff in our CHO.

This is an increase of 261 more staff vaccinated than this time last year - so we're moving in the right direction.

982 staff were vaccinated in the National Show Centre in Swords and Croke Park Covid Vaccination Centres which is 39% of the total staff vaccinated overall.

Primary Care clinics were also well attended.



**Current Uptake: 59%**  
**Target Uptake: 75%**

## Flu Vaccine Prize Winners:

Congratulations to all the winners of the prize draw for staff who got their Flu vaccine in 2022/23. Details of those winners and their prizes are detailed across:



*Pictured above is Erin Shimizu from St. Mary's Hospital with her prize of a €100 One4All gift voucher*

Name	Role	Prize
Agnes E.	Patient & Client Care Navan Road	€100 One4All
Niamh S.	Patient & Client Care Lusk	Annual Leave Day
Theresa K.	Patient & Client Care Navan Road LTFCF	€50 One4All
Catherine R.	Patient & Client Care Seanchara/St. Clare's	Fitbit
Abilash B.	Admin, Balbriggan Primary Care	€100 One4All
Caitriona B.	Nursing, Coolock	Beauty Hamper
Johanna G.	Nurse, Phoenix Care	Beauty Hamper
Ailis F.	Nurse, Grangegorman	Beauty Hamper
Noreen O L.	Support Staff, Grangegorman	€50 One4All
Caoimhe L.	SLT, Coolock Primary Care	Annual Leave Day
Elaine B.	Admin, Fijitsu	Fitbit
Geraldine O H.	Primary Care DNC	€150 One4All
Collette C.	H&SCP - Dental Wellmount Health Centre	Fitbit
Dean J.	Porter, Ballymun Primary Care Centre	Beauty Hamper Male
Hugh G.	Patient & Client Care Domville House	Annual Leave Day
Michelle B.	Patient & Client Care St. Ita's	Annual Leave Day
David H.	Nursing, St. Joseph's	Fitbit
Sephelan S.	Nursing, St. Ita's	Fitbit Versa 3
Sheila McG.	Nursing CNM, St. Joseph's	Annual Leave Day
Fintan T. M.	Homeless Team	Fitbit
Dermot O B.	Mental Health, Phoenix Care	Beauty Hamper
James B.	Mental Health, Phoenix Care	Beauty Hamper
Gemma E.	Admin, Nexus	€100 One4All
Johny T.	Nursing, St. Mary's	Beauty Hamper Male
Erin S.	OT, St. Mary's Launch	€100 One4All
Nkosikona N.	Nursing, St. Mary's Blasket Ward	Annual Leave Day
Libu K.	Support Staff, St. Mary's	€100 One4All



# IFMS Project News

## Issue 2 -February 2023

Message from  
Stephen Mulvany



Chair of the Finance  
Reform Programme  
Steering Committee

Firstly, I wish to take this opportunity to thank staff who attended the Design Review Workshops, IG1 Fit Validation Workshops, Deep Dive Workshops and the IFMS Demonstrations, as well as, those who took the time to complete the Current State Assessment Questionnaire. Your completion of the Baseline Staff Awareness Survey and input to the IFMS Project are very valuable and greatly appreciated.

The Build and Test Stage of the Project is progressing on schedule and will run to May 2023. The governance structure for Implementation Group 1 (IG1) is now in place. Implementation activity has commenced in preparation for IG1 Go-Live date on 3 July 2023. The central IFMS Project Team are working with the local working groups to develop their plans for implementation, testing, training, data, change and communications. Planning Workshops are in progress for each IG1 area to support the completion of this work. Our Management of Change team will continue to support stakeholders along their journey through a number of activities, as we prepare for implementation. Information on these activities will be communicated to impacted stakeholders.

The Project Team continue to hold Playback Demonstrations to show parts of the new IFMS solution. These have had good attendance to date and have been well received by our stakeholders. The fourth Playback Demonstration will take place in March 2023.

A communication will issue to all Senior Leaders this month providing them with a detailed project update. A communication will also issue to all vendors and suppliers informing them about IFMS and what it means for them.

In this issue you can find out more about The One CHI project which went live on 3 January 2023 as planned and Finance Shared Services. Find out more about the [IFMS Project](#).

Please get in touch with our Management of Change team with any queries by contacting [change.ifms@hse.ie](mailto:change.ifms@hse.ie)

Thank you

Stephen Mulvany



## Stabilisation Project for CHI at Temple Street

Congratulations to CHI at Temple Street who went live on SAP on 3 January 2023. The Stabilisation Project involved implementing a single integrated finance management and procurement system. The move from their previous system on 3 January 2023 saw the Children’s Health Ireland (CHI) group on the same instance of SAP for the first time across all the CHI sites.

SAP will enhance financial reporting and forecasting across CHI and will enable improved financial management, governance, compliance and transparency, and a better overall financial control environment.

The implementation of a single integrated finance management and procurement system across the CHI will provide, for the first time, a single SAP platform, further supporting the provision of quality standardised financial and procurement information across the CHI group. In providing greater transparency and availability of financial data, a more evidence-based resource allocation model will be delivered, allowing CHI to further demonstrate continued Value for Money (VFM) to support investment in service in the future.

It will also support the Shared Services Model, provide a foundational platform for centralisation of functions and will bring service improvement opportunities through the elimination of non-value adding activities.

## Implementation Timeline - IFMS Project



Contact the Management of Change team on [change.ifms@hse.ie](mailto:change.ifms@hse.ie) Find out more about IFMS on [IFMS Project -HSE.ie](https://www.hse.ie/ifms)





## Spotlight on Shared Services

My name is Damian Casey and I am the Assistant Chief Financial Officer (ACFO) of Finance Shared Services (FSS). I started working for the HSE in the former Eastern Region Health Authority in 2004, before joining FSS in 2005. I have overall responsibility for the delivery of FSS operations across the HSE, and I work closely with a supportive and collaborative management team.



Finance Shared Services is responsible for the delivery of finance transaction processing for the HSE including payment of all HSE staff and our suppliers. Today we have over 300 dedicated staff across the country, working closely with existing customers across the local community, hospital and corporate services.

The rollout of the IFMS project will transform our business by delivering a single national finance management and procurement solution, supported by standardised national processes across the HSE.

### What are the benefits of IFMS for Finance Shared Services?

- Supports our Finance Shared Services Operating Model and enables the elimination of non-value adding activities and duplication of effort
- Provides standardised processes for each activity enabling optimal management of transactional costs
- Improves efficiency in our ways of working
- Improves visibility and strengthens our control and compliance work
- Delivers centralised receipt and digitisation of all invoicing
- Introduction of a centralised Master Data Unit will provide a single source of truth for finance and procurement master data nationally
- Provides improved reporting and data analytics to support the 5 day close process
- Supports our approach to customer relationship management and customer service ethos

### Where will Finance Shared Services be physically located?

The design for Finance Shared Services proposes that the primary locations will be Dublin and Kilkenny. Dublin will be the primary location for Record to Report and Payment Services. Kilkenny will be the primary location for Order-to-Cash and the Master Data Unit and will also include some Payment Services operations. In line with IFMS implementation, the FSS team will continue to grow in numbers and expand on service delivery across the customer base.

### What Services will be provided under the new Finance Shared Services Target Operating Model?

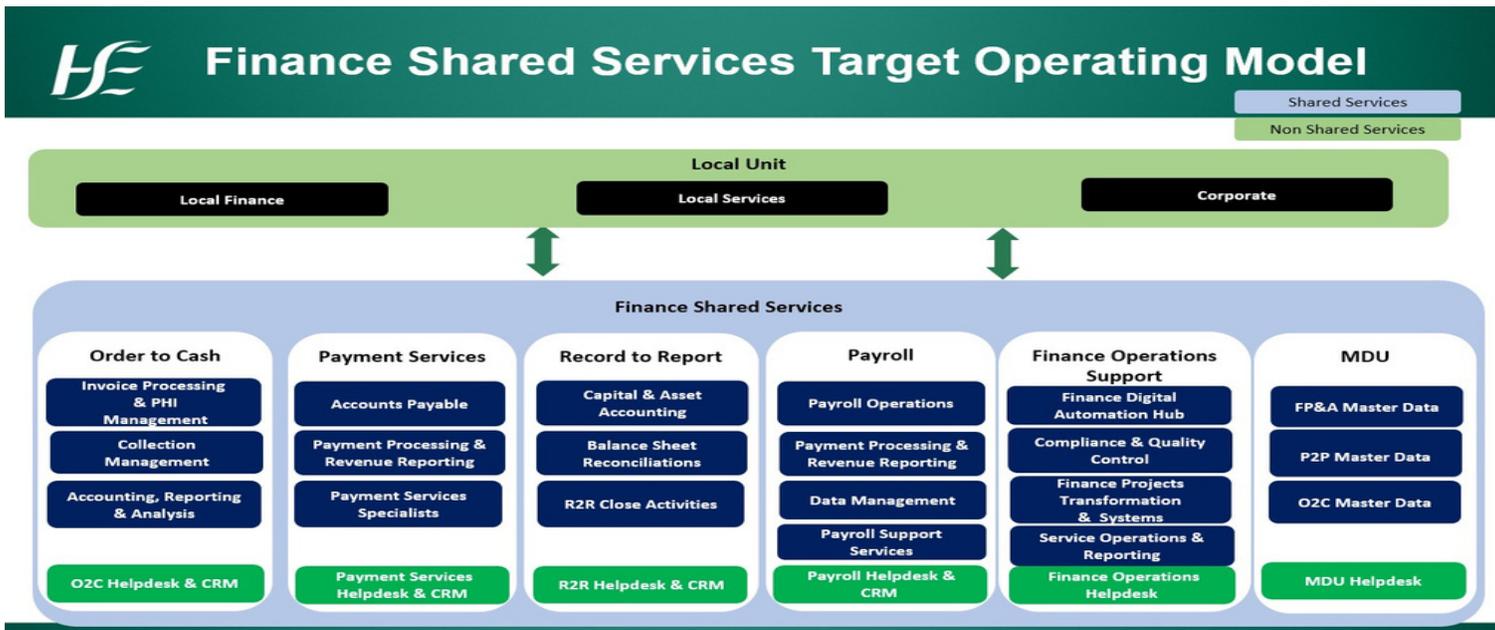
In line with the Financial Management Framework the range of services to be provided by **Finance Shared Services** falls within 4 broad service categories - Payment Services, Order to Cash, Record to Report and Master Data Unit, which will be supported by business relationship management and a national helpdesk solutions.

**Payment Services** - Supplier Invoice management will be centralised, transitioning from the current devolved receipt and checking of invoices locally. This will eliminate the paper based and manual processes as much as possible. This is also a key enabler to the centralisation of national supplier payments and creditor reconciliations.

**Order to Cash** - This will be a new function facilitating a centralised point for customer invoicing, collections and accounting of all income supported by an online national payment portal.

**Record to Report** - encompassing centralisation of all balance sheet and bank reconciliations. This function will also be responsible for national capital and asset accounting, including the maintenance of the asset register.

**Master Data Unit** - A national master data unit will be responsible for data maintenance for financial data objects - Finance, Material, Customer, Vendor. Master data will be requested and approved locally through SAP Master Data Governance (MDG) and validated centrally.





## Refer a Friend Scheme

Our HR Department continues to promote the Refer a Friend Scheme. Under the Scheme, CHO DNCC staff are invited to refer external candidates to open vacancies or campaigns and will be rewarded for doing so, should the candidate you refer commence employment with us. Please note there has been an increase in the maximum payment amount of vouchers to the value of €1,000 per calendar year per employee, which is in accordance with the the Small Benefit Exemption Scheme under Revenue Guidelines.

Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) recognise that our employees are at the centre of our goal to deliver the right care, at the right time, in the right place to the communities of Dublin North City and County. We also recognise that our employees understand the type of candidates who can contribute to this goal & develop their career with us.

This scheme, which commenced in May 2022, will run until the 31st December 2023.

For full details of the scheme, to refer a friend or should you have queries please contact the Human Resources team via [chodncc.recruit@hse.ie](mailto:chodncc.recruit@hse.ie)

## CHO DNCC now on LinkedIn

All job opportunities in CHO DNCC are now available to be viewed on our new LinkedIn page.

For regular updates, please follow this link: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/chodncc>



# COVID-19 Vaccination for Children aged 6 months to 4 years

NIAC has recommended COVID-19 vaccination for children aged 6 months to 4 years with underlying conditions that place them at higher risk of severe COVID-19.

NIAC has also recommended that COVID-19 vaccination should be offered to all others in this age group to protect them from severe disease, provide extra protection from the rare risks of serious illness from COVID-19 (e.g. multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children), as well as reducing household transmission to those immunocompromised or too young for vaccination.

NIAC has also stressed the safety profile of the vaccine and the comparable immunogenicity to that in older children and adolescents.

Click [here](#) to book your vaccine.



## Employee Assistance Programme

### EAPandME Employee Assistance Programme

Many of us experience stresses and strains in our work and personal lives and might be wondering if there is anyone there to help.

Call **0818 327 327**  
to speak to someone who can help.



 #EAPandME



The HSE Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) is a work-based support service for staff and the organisation. This is a confidential independent service. It supports employees with psychosocial issues (psychological and social factors that influence mental health). These issues may be personal or work related, affecting your job performance or home life.

The service is free and available to all HSE employees. Further information is available at:

[www.hse.ie/EAPandME](http://www.hse.ie/EAPandME) or you can call 0818 327 327

Inspire Workplaces are the external staff counselling partner of the HSE. All HSE employees have access to Inspire Hub.

You can log onto to Inspire Hub at any time to access a host of online resources that may be also helpful to you while you are awaiting your appointment with a counsellor or deciding if you want to proceed.

[www.inspiresupporthub.org/HSE-EAPandME](http://www.inspiresupporthub.org/HSE-EAPandME)

# Your Comms Team



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## Share Your Stories

If you have a story or an article that you would like to share, or example of excellence and innovation that demonstrate our values of compassion, kindness, trust, care, learning and leadership, please let us know at:



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[@HSECHODNCC](https://twitter.com/HSECHODNCC)

