



Invitation: Have your say on developing the National Traveller Health Plan in Ireland

The National Social Inclusion office invites you to the formal consultation for the development of the National Traveller Health Plan. This was a key commitment arising out of the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy, 2017-2021.

Philip Watt has been commissioned by the National Social Inclusion Office to develop the National Traveller Health plan and will be facilitating the consultative process. If you are interested in being part of this important process, please pick one of the four possible meetings (below) by responding to this e-mail (details at end of this note).

Venues and other details as follows:

City	Venue	Date	Time	Notes
1. Dublin	Pavee Point 46 North Great Charles Street Dublin	Wednesday 13 June, 2018	9.30am- 1.00pm Light lunch provided	Very close to Mountjoy Square, Dublin On-site and on-street car parking available.
2. Sligo	Northside Community Centre Forthill Sligo	Monday 18 June, 2018	9.30am-1.00pm Light lunch provided	Car parking available at cost of €1.50 per day.
3. Limerick	The Engine, Cecil Street Limerick	Thursday 21 June, 2018	9.30am- 1.00pm Light lunch provided	Only 2 minutes from Limerick train station. Commercial and train car- parks nearby.
4. Cork	Education and Talent Development, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare, St. Mary's Health Campus, Gurrabraher Road, Cork City	Thursday 28 th June, 2018	9.30am- 1.00pm Light Lunch provided	On-site parking available.

Background

The development of a National Traveller Health Plan (NTHP) has the potential to make a significant impact on Traveller health in Ireland. This ambition should not gloss over the very significant challenges of developing and implementing such a Plan that is evident from the *All Ireland Traveller Health Study* (2010).

The commitment to develop a Plan is Recommendation 73 of the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy, 2017-2021

'The Health Service Executive will develop and implement a detailed action plan, based on the findings of the All Ireland Traveller Health Study, to continue to address the specific health needs of Travellers, using a social determinants approach'

Who should attend?

This invitation is aimed at a wide range of key stakeholders who have a key part to play in the implementation of a National Traveller Health Plan, including:

- The Department of Health
- Health Service Executive (HSE)
- Key health agencies in Ireland
- Other agencies concerned with responsibility for factors that can impact on health, in particular accommodation, income/employment and education.
- Travellers and Traveller organisations
- Social inclusion units and partnership bodies
- Traveller Health Units
- Interested parties from the private or business sector
- Primary Health Care Projects

Approach to the Plan

An effective Plan will need to be consistent with the way that health policy and services are structured and developed in Ireland including a focus on:

- Primary care policy and strategies
- Out-patient and In-Patient care in Hospitals
- Health & Well-being
- Mental health

Further the Plan will need to take into account significant cross cutting themes that impact on Traveller health, including for example:

- Gender
- Sexuality
- Children and young people
- Older people
- Addiction
- Chronic and lifelong conditions
- Other broader social determinants, including for example accommodation, employment and education.

Profile of Traveller health in Ireland

The overall health profile of Travellers in Ireland remains very challenging:

- 97 per cent of Travellers die before their 65th birthday
- 42 per cent of Travellers under 15 years of age compared with 21 per cent of the general population
- 63 per cent of Travellers under 25 years of age compared with 35 per cent of the general population
- Only 13 per cent of Travellers complete secondary education in comparison with 92 per cent of the general population.
- 57.2 per cent of Traveller males were educated to primary level at most, compared with just 13.6 per cent of the general population
- Less than 1 per cent of Travellers go on to third level education
- Nearly 40 per cent Traveller households had more persons than rooms compared with less than 6 per cent of non-Traveller households
- Traveller overcrowding 7 times the national rate.

The nature of the consultation.

The consultative meetings will be as participative as possible. An 'Emerging Findings Report' will be presented at the beginning of each consultative meeting which will provide a good sense of how the final Plan will be structured. The discussion will be in plenary and round table form and the outcomes of each meeting will be carefully noted. The final Plan will then be written up over the summer months with the aim of publication in October 2018.

To register, please respond providing the following information

I wish to participate in one of the four consultative meetings for the National Traveller Health Strategy. (Please note, each organisation can nominate up to three people to attend, but in the event of over-subscription, this may be reduced)

There is no registration fee and a 'Emerging Findings' document will be circulated in advance and a summary presented at the meeting to help focus discussion and to give a sense of how the final plan may be structured, so please provide your e-mail details.

Name(s)	Organisation	E-Mail	Venue you would like to attend. Please choose one of the following venues: Dublin (13 June) Sligo (18 June) Limerick (21 June) Cork (28 June)

Please return this to

Michelle Hayes, National Social Inclusion Office, HSE, Mill Lane, Palmerstown, Dublin 20

Email: michelle.hayes2@hse.ie

Phone: 01 6201662

Please reply at least one week in advance of the meeting you are attending