

## **Traveller PHCP Mitigation Plans for COVID-19**

The purpose of this document is to support the Traveller PHCPs to develop mitigation plans and to be in a position to continue to get up to date information out to the Traveller Community. It will provide guidance for key tasks the projects should take in order to remain connected with the local Traveller Community and be able to get updated information out to the Community.

Traveller PHCPs provide peer health information to the Traveller Community in their local areas and are central to the work of the Traveller Health Unit. They provide a valuable mechanism to cascade reliable, up-to-date information to the Traveller Community.

The baseline health of the Traveller Community is significantly poorer than that of the general population, with a high percentage of the Traveller Community suffering from respiratory conditions, asthma, diabetes, cardio-vascular disease and poor mental health.

It is really important that the Traveller Community are fully aware of COVID-19 and understand how best to protect themselves and their families from the virus. Travellers will receive all the general information from the HSE and through our work, will also receive additional support to understand and comply with this information.

### **Contact Requirements**

1. Ensure there is an up to date Staff listing, address and mobile phone contact details
2. Ensure there is an up to date THU listing for Co-ordinator, Designated PHN and Community Development – work emails, and mobile numbers
3. Ensure that there is an up to date contact list for Traveller families in the PHCP catchment area
4. Ensure there is an up to date list for local organisations that support work with Travellers and the project
5. Ensure these lists been created as email address groups and text message distribution lists

### **Facebook Page**

1. Is the PHCP Facebook page operational?
2. Can it be organised so that up to date Coronavirus information is front and centre, and is updated regularly?
3. Identify person with responsibility for updating and a deputy in case of their absence.

### **Links with THU**

1. THU Co-ordinator will agree overall plan of action and updated approaches with host organisation managers

2. THU Co-ordinator will provide up to date information to the PHCP co-ordinators and Host organisation managers as it becomes available
3. Information packs and resources for distribution will be provided to the PHCPs
4. THU Co-ordinator and ADPHN will hold a weekly teleconference with PHCP co-ordinators or as required

### **Host Organisation Risk Assessments of the PHCP**

Each host organisation will undertake a risk assessment for the PHCP and coronavirus that focuses on:

- The identification of the risks and hazards as they apply to the PHCP staff, service users and the broader Traveller Community
- The existing and additional control measures required to respond to these risks

### **Plan for level of service delivery**

It is important that each PHCP develops a plan outlining how the project will work in response to the current coronavirus issue:

1. Identification of Level 1 response with services being provided with a full staff cohort – identification of key focus of work to be undertaken re: COVID-19 Coronavirus, including some outreach work and planning work on contact lists etc.
2. Identification of Level 2 response with services being provided with a reduced staffing level and where mainly office-based work is being provided – utilisation of tele-health support approaches, continuation of preparations for office/ home based work
3. Identification of Level 3 response with services being critically scaled back – how can the PHCP continue to cascade information out to the Community when most/ no staff are working from the office.