

HSE Public Health Strategy Newsletter

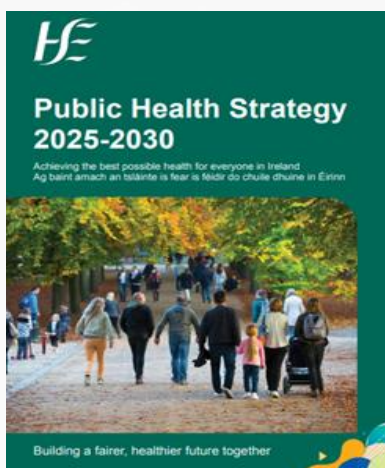
January, 2026

Vol.2

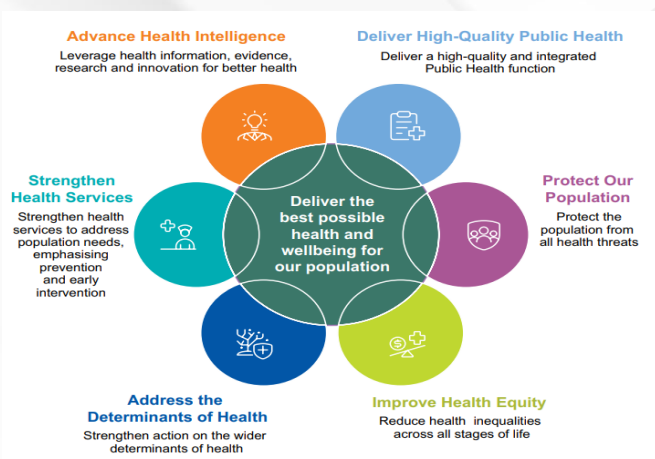


A Message from the National Director.

I am delighted to start the new year by acknowledging the official launch of the HSE Public Health strategy in December 2025. This ambitious strategy reflects both the lessons identified from recent challenges and our goal of building healthier, fairer communities. By listening to the voice of patients and communities, and working closely with partners from across society, we are laying the foundation for a public health function that is prepared for the future and driven by measurable impact. **Dr John Cuddihy**



In December 2025, Bernard Gloster formally launched the first HSE Public Health Strategy 2025–2030. The strategy sets out a clear vision for the best possible health and wellbeing for everyone in Ireland. It provides a clear roadmap to improve health outcomes, reduce inequalities, and strengthen Ireland's public health system over the next five years. Central to the new strategy is a commitment to improving health and wellbeing, protecting health, driving disease prevention, and improving health equity, focusing on the six priority areas outlined below:



Dr Colm Henry, Chief Clinical Officer, HSE, said: "This is an important step forward in our commitment to the health and wellbeing of people across Ireland. The strategy provides clear direction and empowers our dedicated public health workforce to deliver real and sustainable improvements in population health and resilience. The strategy will also ensure that Public Health, within the HSE and embedded in our Regions, will play a strengthened and pivotal role in the transformation of healthcare as envisaged by Sláintecare".

CEO of the HSE, Bernard Gloster, said: "I am delighted to launch this new public health strategy and I sincerely thank everyone who shaped it - our patients, service users and communities, our public health workforce, and all our other partners involved in its development, inside and outside the HSE. I welcome their vision and commitment to achieving the best possible health and wellbeing for everyone in Ireland in a fair, sustainable and innovative way."



What's next?

Work has commenced on a three-year **strategic action plan** (SAP) (2026-2029) setting out a clear roadmap outlining specific tasks, responsibilities, and timelines to achieve clearly defined deliverables and outcomes.

The development of a SAP is essential in the context of public health reform and the need to optimally leverage the investment in public health by delivering improved population health outcomes and accountability, and by monitoring and evaluating the impact of the strategy through a focused suite of KPIs.

Structured around the following seven priority programmes, the SAP will be an integrated exercise nationally and regionally, bringing everybody together to help successfully deliver upon the strategy's main objectives for our population :

1. Immunisation
2. Emergency Planning
3. Reducing Health Inequalities
4. Improving Health & Wellbeing
5. Improving Health Services, including Population Based Planning
6. Intelligence for Public Health including Artificial Intelligence
7. Strengthening the Public Health function.

With the publication of this Strategy, and the development of the SAP, the HSE is committed to working collaboratively across government, post-graduate training bodies, academia, community organisations, with the public at the centre of all we do, to address root causes of health inequalities, empower communities, and improve health outcomes for all.

Governance and Timelines

The development of a three year Strategic Action Plan (SAP) is the responsibility of the National Director for Public Health, supported by a steering group, SAP teams and the project team, under the sponsorship of the Chief Clinical Officer. The development work has commenced, with a target date for completion in Autumn 2026.

CONTACT US

You can contact the Public Health Strategy and SAP Development Project Team by email at phstrategy@hyse.ie

You can also check out the HSE Public Health Website at

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/5/publichealth/publichealthdepts/deptpublichealth/>

