

Meeting: National Crisis Management Team. **Meeting #43**, COVID-19.

Date: Thursday 9th July 2020 @ 08:30am.

Attendance:

Member - Paul Reid, CEO HSE; Ann O'Connor, COO; Dr Colm Henry, CCO; Dean Sullivan, CSPO; Stephen Mulvany, CFO; Martin Dunne, Director National Ambulance Service; Yvonne O'Neill Community Operations; Liam Woods, ND Acute Operations; Tom McGuinness, AND National Emergency Management; John Kelly, Head of Corporate Affairs; Fran Thompson, CIO; Anne Marie Hoey, ND Human Resources; Sean Bresnan, ND Procurement; Dr Paul Connors, ND Communications; Damien McCallion, HSE EMT; Dr Lorraine Doherty, CL HPSC; Dr Kevin Kelleher, AND Public Health; David Keating, Dept. of Health; Ray Mitchell HSE Parliamentary Affairs.

In Attendance - Amanda Prior, HSE National Office for Emergency Management; Cahir O'Byrne, HSE National Office for Emergency Management.

Apologies:

Joe Ryan, ND National Services; Niamh O'Beirne, HSE EMT; Dr Siobhan Ni Bhriain, National Lead Integrated Care.

Topic	Discussion	Action	Owner
1.			
<u>INTRODUCTION:</u>	<p>The CEO Mr Paul Reid, opened the 43rd meeting of the NCMT.</p> <p>The CEO passed on the NCMT's appreciation to the CIO and other responsible teams for the development and successful launch of the COVID-19 Tracker App launched over the weekend.</p> <p>The CEO expressed sincere thanks to all who have formed part of the NCMT to date, and to those who will remain on the NCMT moving forward.</p>		
2.			
<u>MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:</u>	Minutes from NCMT #42 were approved.		
3.			
<u>NPHET ACTION LOG:</u>	The CEO requested an update on NPHET actions.	The action list will be updated as necessary to include new actions and status of existing ones.	HSE National Emergency Management – Tom McGuinness.
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5.			
<u>Short Papers- commentary</u>	<u>Short Papers – looking forward:</u> The CEO expressed thanks to all for the short papers submitted pertaining to challenges ahead and mobilisation approach for each service area. TMcG		

	<p>will circulate the collated papers next week. The CEO briefly discussed some of the submissions:</p> <p>1. PPE: The CEO queried if there has been any relief on international price within the PPE market. Sean Bresnan, ND Procurement confirmed there has been some softening of prices on some lines but of little significance. The PPE market remains volatile due to continuing high demand worldwide, but particularly in the Americas. The CEO also raised the matter of development of indigenous capacity and engagement with Enterprise Ireland to progress same. Dean Sullivan, CSPO, noted that he will be meeting with [REDACTED] this afternoon (9/7/20) to discuss this matter. DS will discuss and progress with SB following that meeting.</p> <p>2. Acute Hospital Capacity: In regard to HSE Estates, the CEO asked about the capacity for modular builds on existing acute hospital sites. The CEO has raised the prospect of capital investment to address key capacity gaps with Government. Dean Sullivan, CSPO, Anne O'Connor COO and Liam Woods are working to identify suitable sites where such rapid build</p>	<p>TMcG will circulate consolidated papers following review by CEO's office.</p> <p>CEO, Procurement & CSPO to discuss options around development of indigenous capacity following meeting with [REDACTED]</p>	<p>Tom McGuinness</p> <p>Paul Reid – CEO/ Sean Bresnan – Procurement/ Dean Sullivan - CSPO</p>
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	<p>projects would address specific infrastructure deficits for acute hospitals.</p> <p>3. National Ambulance Service: The CEO noted that the flexibility and agility demonstrated by NAS in establishing COVID testing as required will be needed over the coming months. He noted that this would be a challenge as ED attendances rise over the winter months. Martin Dunne, NAS, confirmed discussions are ongoing with acute operations to examine how turnaround times at EDs can be improved despite the increased volume of attendances. Staff skill sets are also being maintained around COVID-19 testing through ongoing training.</p> <p>4. HPSC: The CEO clarified that, at his direction, the whole testing and contract tracing process is a single joined up approach led by Niamh O’Beirne and overseen by HSE EMT. This approach has been approved by HSE Board. Damien McCallion confirmed that contact tracing systems will align with the long-term testing and tracing strategy. The CEO emphasised the need for a clear coordinated approach with no elements being developed in isolation.</p>	<p>Update as required.</p>	
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	<p>5. Clinical: The CEO requested planning for surge capacity and mobilisation of same remain a key focus. Dr Colm Henry, CCO, suggested that the increased critical care capacity and the associated surge capacity should focus on those existing hospitals who operate high numbers of critical care beds. Those hospitals have a higher pool of trained critical care intensivists to draw from in the event of a surge. Critical care capacity should be a standing item on NCMT agenda.</p> <p>6. Finance: The CFO requested that the processes put in place for sanctioning expenditure be raised with the HSE Board to ensure they remain fit for purpose as the immediate crisis has moved on. The CEO also noted that the financial delegations approved by the board should be reviewed. He also noted that the accelerated sanction process within the DoH and DEPR must be maintained.</p> <p>7. Communications: The CEO highlighted the need to maintain strong public engagement in order to build stronger confidence and trust in the HSE.</p>	<p>Critical care capacity to become standing item on NCMT agenda.</p> <p>Matters to be included on the CEO report for HSE Board.</p>	<p>Tom McGuinness NEMO</p> <p>CEO's Office – John Kelly & Stephen Mulvany CFO</p>
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	The CEO requested final version of completed learnings document be circulated to all upon completion.	TMG to circulate final learnings document to NCMT.	Tom McGuinness
6.			
AOB	<p>An Post: The CEO received communications from An Post stating they are in discussions with the HSE regarding the circulation of face coverings to homes if such a measure is implemented by Government. HSE procurement are unaware of these discussions. The CEO to seek further clarification.</p> <p>NCMT Agenda: The CEO requested a meeting be scheduled with Tom McGuinness, NEMO, in order to develop future NCMT agenda. NCMT members to forward proposed agenda items to Tom McGuinness.</p> <p>Private Hospitals: Liam Woods, ND Acute Operations provided an update on the negotiations with private hospitals following the Government decision not to extend the arrangements for use of these hospitals by HSE. There are a number of distinct items to be agreed:</p>	<p>CEO to clarify who An Post have been engaging with in the HSE.</p> <p>TMcG to agree revised agenda with CEO.</p> <p>NCMT members should submit agenda items to be included to TMcG.</p> <p>Update as required.</p>	<p>Paul Reid – CEO</p> <p>Tom McGuinness</p> <p>All</p> <p>ND Acute Operations</p>

	<p>a) Continuity of care arrangements for HSE patients who remained in private hospitals post 30th June. These are now in place and operating.</p> <p>b) Use of some private hospital capacity for HSE services, such as cancer services, where these services can be done safely in private facilities with HSE teams working in those facilities. These discussions are at an advanced stage and will require financial approval.</p> <p>c) Planning for use of private hospitals for future surge capacity if required.</p> <p>The PHA are also seeking to schedule a meeting with the Minister of Health.</p> <p>DoH Draft on NPHET Future Policy: The draft document was discussed and some feedback provided in advance of NPHET meeting.</p>		
7.			
<u>NEXT MEETINGS</u>	<p>The next meeting of the NCMT will be as follows: NCMT #44 Tuesday 14th July 2020 @ 09:00am</p>		HSE National Emergency Management – Amanda Prior