

**Meeting:** National Crisis Management Team.

**Meeting #56, COVID-19.**

**Date:** Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020, 10:00 hrs.

**Attendance:**

**Members** – Paul Reid, CEO; Ann O’Connor, COO; Dean Sullivan, CSPO; Anne Marie Hoey ND HR; Tom McGuinness, AND National Emergency Management; Sean Bresnan, ND Procurement; Ray Mitchell, Parliamentary Affairs; Dr Kevin Kelleher, AND Public Health; Martin Dunne, Director National Ambulance Service; Niamh O’Beirne, HSE EMT; Fran Thompson, CIO; Dr Lorraine Doherty, CL HPSC; Dr Colm Henry, CCO; Joe Ryan, ND National Services; John Kelly, Corporate Affairs; Stephen Mulvany, CFO.

**In Attendance** - Cahir O’Byrne, HSE National Office for Emergency Management; Amanda Prior, HSE National Office for Emergency Management; David Leach, DoH.

**Apologies:**

Liam Woods, ND Acute Operations; Yvonne O’Neill, Community Operations; Dr Siobhan Ni Bhriain, National Lead Integrated Care.

Topic	Discussion	Action	Owner
<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b>			
	The CEO opened NCMT #56		
<b>2. PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>			
	Minutes of NCMT #55 approved by all.		Cahir O'Byrne - National Emergency Management
<b>3. NPHE ACTION LOG</b>			
	The CEO requested an update on NPHE actions.	The action list will be updated as necessary to include new actions and status of existing ones.	Tom McGuinness - National Emergency Management
<b>4. NCMT ACTION LOG</b>			
	The CEO requested an update on NCMT actions.	The action list will be updated as necessary to include new actions and status of existing ones.	Cahir O'Byrne - National Emergency Management
<b>5. Public Health Update</b>			
	<p>A national epidemiological update was provided by Lorraine Doherty, Clinical lead HPSC.</p> <p>The CEO queried the global correlation between increased testing leading to increased identified cases. LD noted that generally testing within the EU is very comprehensive, with the exception of countries with lower GDP, given the</p>	Update to be provided at next meeting.	Dr Lorraine Doherty - Clinical Lead HPSC

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	<p>costs associated with a comprehensive testing program.</p> <p>KK pointed out that those being tested in March and April had to meet different clinical criteria (minimum of two symptoms) in order to be sent for testing. Now HSE are testing wide range of asymptomatic patients and testing more people overall. Those positive cases are different in terms of lower age demographic and people being “less unwell”. While we have had young people in ICU and deaths of young people from COVID, they are a much lower number than in the older demographic.</p> <p>LD noted that a paper is being drafted on Covid-19 testing strategies and objectives and strategies for Covid-19, influenza and other influenza like illnesses in acute settings.</p>	<p>NPHET Action #128: Paper to be reviewed by HSE NCMT prior to review by NPHET.</p> <p>Any testing response needs to be sustainable and not overwhelm the system.</p>	
<b>6. Testing &amp; Tracing Update</b>			
	<p>An update was provided by Damien McCallion. 88k tests processed by labs last week which is at or close to daily capacities.</p> <p>Fran Thompson noted that HSE are assisting NVRL in implementing a new</p>	<p>Niamh O’Beirne to update at next meeting.</p>	<p>Niamh O’Beirne – HSE EMT</p>

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	<p>lab system to provide a more robust platform for handing of COVID-19 data and to separate it from other NVRL lab data.</p> <p>HIQA are finalising a paper on alternative testing strategies including some review of alternative testing systems.</p> <p>HSE are examining methods to increase daily lab capacity from 15k to 20k, and up to as much as 30k per day. The plan would be to develop this capacity on the island of Ireland.</p>		
<b>7. Community Operation</b>			
	<p>An update was provided by Ann O'Connor, Chief Operations Officer. Testing turnaround times remain good. The current focus is the pinning down of initiatives within the winter plan and allocation of same to various HSE services.</p>	<p>Chief Operations Officer and Community Ops will update at next NCMT.</p>	<p>Ann O'Connor – Chief Operations Officer/ Yvonne O'Neill – Community Operations</p>

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<b>8. Acute Operations</b>			
	<p>Engagement is ongoing with private hospitals and discussions are taking place at local level. The tender process is in the cooling off phase and concludes October 8<sup>th</sup> 2020. The agreed framework will then be active. Mini competitions will be initiated as demand is identified. Procurement have established a team to support acute services requiring access to the framework.</p>	<p>Acute operations to provide update at next meeting.</p>	<p>Liam Woods – Acute Operations</p>
<b>9. Clinical Coalition</b>			
	<p>No further updates other than those already covered in this minute.</p>	<p>Dr Colm Henry to update at next NCMT.</p>	<p>Dr Colm Henry – Chief Clinical Officer</p>
<b>10. AOB</b>			
	<p><u>Procurement:</u> An update was provided by Sean Bresnan, ND Procurement. Engagement is ongoing with DoH and DPER regarding January 2021 requirements.</p> <p>A PPE pinch point has been identified in relation to nitrile gloves. Two strong supply lines have been secured in this regard. Generally other PPE supply lines are strong.</p>		

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11. NEXT MEETING			
	NCMT #57 Tuesday, 6th October 2020 @ 09:00 hrs		