

**PHA AND DOH EXTRAORDINARY SPONSORSHIP MEETING TUESDAY 2nd
FEBRUARY 2021 16.30 VIA ZOOM**

DoH	PHA
Dr Michael McBride, CMO	Olive MacLeod
Dr Lourda Geoghegan, DCMO	Dr Stephen Bergin
NR	Rodney Morton
	Dr Liz Mitchell
	NR
	Dr Aideen Keaney
Apologies	NR
Stephen Wilson	

1. Chair Introduction/Welcome

Dr McBride welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Note of the last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

3. Matters Arising

Action Point 1: PHA to share presentation to PHA Board with Sponsor Branch and to engage with Sponsor Branch in taking forward the response to the review.

Dr McBride asked if the PHA wanted to quickly run through the presentation. Dr Bergin advised that work had commenced on a new planning model for Northern Ireland and both he and Mr Morton were engaging on the project board. He outlined that it is essential that the PHA is highly involved in this work, building on previous work on population health planning, but also ensuring that the PHA is central to the new planning processes and integrated care system prototypes.

Dr McBride thanked Dr Bergin for his presentation and noted that the approach he outlined could be built on the good work taken forward by the Making Life Better HSC Partnership on population health planning and the wider cross-government work underway as part of this key strategy.

NR advised that he had met with Martina Moore and NR in the Department. NR agreed with Dr Bergin that all of the PHA needs to be involved in planning to ensure Trust plans are aligned and

integrated. Dr McBride agreed that he was happy for this engagement to continue.

Ms MacLeod stated that Dr Hussey's report had identified that much PHA work takes place in silos and that there is a need to work more corporately. Mr Morton suggested that, in linking the Hussey review to the work on the new planning model, thought needs to be given to the strategic role of the PHA.

New Action Point 1: The PHA continue to work with the Department, through CMO's office and the sponsor branch, to consider the Hussey report, the work on the new planning model and the way forward in the short, medium and long term.

4. COVID-19 Response I.

Contact Tracing

Service

Dr McBride advised that he had a useful meeting about the Contact Tracing Service. He noted that the Service should be very proud as it is performing strongly - CMO noted that he was aware of 2200 cases being dealt with in one day and he was hugely appreciative of the hard work.

II. Vaccination Programme

Flu Vaccination

The figures provided are helpful however there seems to be a very low occurrence of flu, although this may change. He asked if the PHA any issues to report? Ms MacLeod said that there were no issues to raise, and noted that they hoped to carry out an assessment to capture learning from this seasons programme later in the year.

Dr McBride noted the difference in this year's programme, with the use of large venues and drive-through facilities. He pointed to consideration needed in the uptake of care workers. Overall, there is work to do but the vaccination programme is heading in the right direction. A debrief later in the year to capture learning will be helpful.

III. General Covid Issues including Capacity and Capability

Dr McBride asked there any update on the Business Case
agreed to check with

NR

NR

re current position

New Action Point 2: to check with re Business Case

NR

NR

There were no further issues raised.

5. Wider PHA Functions I. Impact on other PHA function – reporting by exception

Ms MacLeod advised there were no further impacts to report at this stage.

II. PHA inflight review

As the inflight review was discussed earlier there was no need for a discussion under this Agenda Item

III. Restoration of Screening

Dr McBride thanked the PHA for their update paper, prepared for the previous meeting, and stated that he was aware that Dr Carol Beattie has been working with policy colleagues and the PHA in relation to the Breast Screening programme.

Dr McBride stated that he had some concerns over the different approaches by Trusts regarding endoscopy. Dr Bergin stated that work was ongoing with the Trusts in this regard. CMO asked the PHA to monitor this.

Similarly, in respect of Cervical Screening, CMO noted that some GP practices are not offering cervical screening. Dr Bergin stated that the PHA were working with individual GP practices.

6. AOB

There was no further business.

7. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 16th February 2021 from 16.30-17.00 and fortnightly thereafter, as required.