

**Oversight Group for the Implementation of Recommendations in the HIQA  
Investigation Report on Portlaoise Hospital  
8<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2016**

**Report of Meeting**

**Present**

Dr Tony Holohan (Chair)	Chief Medical Officer
Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan	Director of Patient Safety and Clinical Effectiveness
Tracey Conroy	Assistant Secretary, Acute Hospitals Division
Sheila O'Connor	Patient Focus
Dr Siobhan O'Halloran	Chief Nursing Officer

**Apologies**

Joan Regan	Acute Hospitals Division
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**In Attendance**

Liam Woods	Acute Hospitals Division, HSE
Angela Fitzgerald	Acute Hospitals Division, HSE
Eileen Ruddin	Acute Hospitals Division, HSE
Dr Susan O'Reilly	CEO, Dublin Midlands Hospital Group

**Admin Support**

Robbie Breen	Patient Safety Unit
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1. The minutes of the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015 were agreed.
2. The 4<sup>th</sup> Report from the Oversight Group covering the period to 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 was submitted to the Minister on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2016.
3. The Oversight Group reviewed the Implementation Plan Report No 5 which covered the period to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015. The Group concentrated on and discussed those actions that were indicating a “minor challenge” to being delivered by the target date or had passed their target date.
4. During the discussion the Chairperson asked the HSE to identify for the Oversight Group how the HSE's additional patient safety resources would be deployed in 2016. Other issues discussed were the clinical network between the Coombe and Portlaoise; the progress being achieved on the risk assessment of clinical and corporate governance within each hospital group and the development and publication of a Maternity Patient Safety Statement (MPSS). The Chairperson expressed some concern that the content of the MPSS had not yet been finalised by the HSE. He said that the MPSS must include data each month on the total number of adverse events and the number of which were Serious Reportable Events (SRE's). The HSE agreed to carry out some further work on the MPSS.

5. Dr MacLellen circulated a copy of the report of the meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 between the Department and the HSE following the Minister's visit to Portlaoise on 12<sup>th</sup> January. The Report had been sent to the HSE on 19<sup>th</sup> January. The Minister is concerned that a full and effective response is put in place by the HSE for those who have been harmed by events that took place in Portlaoise Hospital Maternity Services over a number of years. Dr O'Reilly outlined the on-going interventions that are taking place at local level to meet the needs of families. She agreed to provide a written update on the status of this work and the future plans in place.

The Chairperson suggested adding new actions which reflect the actions agreed at the meeting between the Department and the HSE on 15<sup>th</sup> January to the Oversight Group Implementation Plan in order to allow the Oversight Group monitor the HSE's progress in implementing these actions.

6. **AOB**

S O'Connor said that Patient Focus had been over-stretched in trying to respond to the needs of patients in Portlaoise and to manage the engagement with the Department and HSE. Patient Focus was a small group of dedicated people and additional resources were required to allow them to continue to support the work in Portlaoise. The Chairperson and T Conroy on behalf of the Department and L Woods and Dr O'Reilly on behalf of the HSE said that they were hugely appreciative of the valuable support provided by Patient Focus in Portlaoise. L Woods undertook to follow-up on funding with Patient Focus.

7. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 3pm in Hawkins House. Dates of future meetings in 2016 are to be arranged.

*Robbie Breen*  
*Patient Safety Unit*  
*1<sup>st</sup> February, 2016*