

Oversight Group for the Implementation of Recommendations in the HIQA Investigation Report on Portlaoise Hospital

1st Meeting – Thursday 4th June, 2015 – Hawkins House

Report of Meeting

Present: Dr Tony Holohan, (Chair) Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health
Tracey Conroy, Assistant Secretary, Acute Hospitals Division, D/Health
Dr Siobhan O’Halloran, Chief Nursing Officer, Department of Health
Dr Eibhlin Connolly, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Patient Safety Unit,
Department of Health
Joan Regan, Principal Officer, Acute Hospitals Division, Department of
Health
Cathriona Molloy for Sheila O’Connor, Patient Focus
Robbie Breen, Patient Safety Unit, Department of Health

1. Dr Holohan opened the meeting and provided some background to the establishment and role of the Oversight Group. The Terms of Reference for the Oversight Group were agreed.
2. The Group also agreed the following actions.
 - (i) The Group would meet monthly.
 - (ii) Fergal Collins, Project Manager, CNO’s Office, will be asked to provide administrative support and project management advice to the Group.
 - (iii) The Patient Safety Unit, D/Health will examine how Recommendation 1 (Advocacy Service) from the HIQA Portlaoise Report can be advanced.
 - (iv) Recommendation 2 of the HIQA Report refers to Portlaoise Hospital only as there is a separate process in place to monitor implementation of HIQA recommendations by the HSE from previous HIQA reports.
 - (v) Letter from the HSE to Minister Varadkar dated 21st May 2015 to be emailed to Cathriona Molloy.
 - (vi) The Group will monitor the commitment given by the DG of the HSE to the Minister in his letter of 21st May 2015 that Liam Woods would report to the Minister every Tuesday commencing on 2nd June 2015 on the progress being achieved in the provision of counselling and support services and the processing of case reviews in Portlaoise.
 - (vii) The scope of the work of the Oversight Group will include monitoring implementation of the CMO’s Report on Portlaoise Perinatal Deaths, the HSE’s Diagnostic Report on Portlaoise Hospitals carried out by Ian Carter and the DG’s letter of 21st May, 2015 referred to above.
 - (viii) Tracey Conroy will inform timelines and milestones for Recommendation 4 (Hospital Groups).

- (ix) A meeting is to be arranged with the HSE on w/c 8th June to discuss the HSE's plans for implementation of the HIQA Recommendations – the HSE's Implementation Plan is expected to be submitted to the Minister by 5th June.
- (x) Contact to be made with HIQA to discuss the scope of Recommendation 5 (appointment of Directors of Midwifery).
- (xi) A draft Project Plan will prepare by D/Health with timelines and milestones.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was arranged for Wednesday 17th June.

Robbie Breen
Patient Safety and Quality Unit
16th June, 2015