

Note for the Minister's Information

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

1. The HIQA Investigation Report on Portlaoise Hospital called for the establishment of an oversight group to oversee the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Report. The Minister approved the establishment of an Oversight Group.
2. This is the fourth report from the Oversight Group to the Minister on the progress being achieved in the implementation of the HIQA recommendations. The report covers progress made for the period to 30th November, 2015 which was discussed at the Oversight Group meeting on 16th December. To date the Oversight Group has met on seven occasions and the Group's overall assessment continues to be that the HSE is making a significant effort at local and national management levels to work towards implementation of the HIQA Portlaoise recommendations.
3. The next meeting of the Oversight Group is scheduled for 26th January 2016 to review the progress of implementation up to the 31st December 2015. In light of the issues raised by families at the meeting with the Minister in Portlaoise on 12th January and my meeting with Dr Susan O'Reilly on 15th January, the Oversight Group intends to press the HSE further to ensure arrangements and resources are in place to meet needs identified by families.
4. The Oversight Group continues to monitor the agreed Implementation Plan on a monthly basis which shows the progress of implementation of each of the eight HIQA recommendations contained in the HIQA Portlaoise Report. The attached Implementation Plan for the period to 30th November, 2015 shows the actions, milestones, timelines and status of implementation of the plan.
5. The Implementation Plan shows a large number of actions completed and a large proportion on track for implementation by the timeline set. There are minor challenges in relation to some actions. These challenges are largely due to timing issues where the action is being progressed but it has missed the project completion date. These are regarded as minor challenges where the action will be completed but slightly delayed. A list of the "minor challenges" is attached at **Appendix A** with an explanation for each.
6. A copy of the Implementation Plan to 30th November, 2015 will be placed on the Department's website in the coming days.

Dr Tony Holohan
Chief Medical Officer and Chairperson of the Oversight Group
15th January, 2016

Appendix A

Implementation Plan for Portlaoise Oversight Group to 30th November, 2015

Reported Minor Challenges

Action	Milestone	Due Date	Explanation
Establish a Patient Advocacy Service	Option Appraisal paper developed	30/09/2015	This project is delayed as it is a key action for the new National Patient Safety Office within the Department of Health which only received Government approval on 10 th November, 2015.
	Consultation process with key stakeholders completed	30/09/2015	
	Short consultation process completed	31/10/2015	
	Role and structure of new service agreed with Minister and resource requirements identified	30/11/2015	
Develop a National Maternity Strategy	Working Group Report submitted to Minister	31/10/2015	The final meeting of the Steering Group is scheduled for 17 December. A draft strategy will issue to the Group in advance of the meeting.
Establish Hospital Groups and establish legal framework	All Hospital Group Boards established within agreed legal framework	30/09/2015	The Department is finalising arrangements to establish the Group Boards with "core" competencies before the end of the year.
	The Department has developed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which will be finalised and agreed once the Boards have been appointed	30/09/2015	The Department has developed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which will be finalised and agreed once the Boards have been appointed.
Appoint directors of midwifery or equivalent.	Advertise directors of midwifery posts.	30/09/2015	These posts are being welcomed by representative bodies and job descriptions being finalised with a view to advertising the posts in December 2015.
Risk Assessment Based on the findings of the HIQA	Report on overall findings.	30/11/2015	Assessments submitted from Hospital Groups. Report on overall findings is being prepared

Portlaoise report each Hospital Group is to undertake a risk assessment of clinical and corporate governance within their Group with a view to identifying and stratifying immediate risks and mitigating actions, (in particular the transfer policy for high risk patient cohorts).			and implementation plans will be developed aligned with relevant standards and national policy.
Obstetric networks to be established in dialogue with the new National Women and Infants Programme Office and informed by the National Clinical Programmes.	Complete birth rate plus workforce analysis.	30/09/2015	Analysis complete. Process in place to sign-off finalised report in December 2015.
Each Hospital should implement on-going mandatory clinical training programmes for all clinical staff in respect of day-to-day care of pregnant women where such programmes do not already exist.	Design the metrics to measure compliance.	31/10/2015	Additional milestones have been identified to A) Determine the content of the training programme, B) Identify appropriate modes of delivery and training plan to deliver the training, C) Identify appropriate resources to deliver training plan, and D) identify appropriate metrics to measure compliance. These milestones will be included in the Report to 31 st December, 2015
	First quarterly report on uptake in each Hospital on clinical mandatory training programme for clinical staff in respect of the day to day care of pregnant women.	31/01/2016	First quarterly report will be completed post the establishment of the training programme which is a prerequisite for the clinical mandatory training.
Patient Safety Statements Development and implementation of monthly Patient Safety Statement reporting and publication for Maternity and general Hospital	Implement reporting of monthly maternity metrics patient safety statements.	30/09/2015	Review of key metrics undertaken in conjunction with Hospital Groups and maternity services. Changes made to ensure consistency with other reporting and measurement requirements. Plan underway for

services. Statements to be signed off by governance management teams and at board level.			publication of statement. It is the HSE's intention that these will be published by individual hospitals commencing in December.
	Develop content/ metrics of Hospital Patient Safety Statements in consultation with Acute Hospitals Division & Clinical Programmes.	30/09/2015	Working group established to develop content/metrics of the Hospital Patient Safety Statement. Metrics scheduled to be finalised by December 2015.
Systems Analysis Investigations Develop and implement a system to measure and report incidents, provide visibility investigations underway and investigation status (completed, on time, outcomes etc.).	Set agreed timelines and reporting arrangements for completing non SRE investigations.	30/09/2015	Timelines currently being reviewed by the HSE with a view to being finalised by the end of 2015.