Health Budget Oversight Group (HBOG)
3.00pm, 27 February 2020
Department of Public Expenditure and Reform

Health Service Executive:	Ann-Marie Hoey, Stephen Mulvany, Anne O'Connor, Tim Cummins, Colm Maddox
Department of Health:	Gerry O'Brien, Kevin Coleman, Louise Carrigan, Caoimhe Dolan,
D/Public Expenditure & Reform:	Ronnie Downes, David Owens, Terry Jennings, Robert Scott, Deirdre Collins, Patrick Moran, Albert Morris, Seán Prior, Cian McCarthy, Kevin O'Farrell

1. Introductions and Minutes from previous meeting

January Minutes agreed by all, in line with observations supplied.
All attendees now sign in to each meeting to clarify attendance going forward.

2. Ongoing Expenditure management: 2020 profile and January returns

The issue of cash and accruals was discussed.

Actions: Meeting between officials to take place between DoH and D/PER to discuss variances in accruals and cash draw downs and clarify the assumptions underlying the agreed profile. The last I&E outturn D/PER have is November. DoH to organise.

The issue of receiving financial reports in a timely fashion was discussed. It was agreed that Finance data will be shared prior to performance data to avoid any delay in D/PER having sight of important financials.

Actions: DoH and D/PER to agree reporting timelines. HSE to comply with such constraints when agreed.

3. Pay and Numbers Strategy 2020 update

The staffing controls remain the same as what was agreed last year. This will be reviewed after Q1.

The HSE have a new reporting suite which will give a greater sight of pay and numbers going forward. Q showed a reduction in staffing trends and the controls show improved outcomes.

4. NSP Savings update

NSP Savings: Biosimilars were discussed as part of the savings measures.

5. Any Other Business

The SCA was discussed and it was agreed that a representative would attend the HBOG as required during the year. The first attendance date to be clarified.

Pay meetings which took place between pay side in D/PER and DoH have been fruitful.

i) Safe Staffing Framework – observations and reflections on this are welcomed for the next meeting.
ii) HSE Accounting and DoH on costing pay deals.

FOI schedule of publications of HBOG meetings was discussed. It is to be decided when it will be available; one month or one quarter in arrears.

Next scheduled meeting to take place on 25th March 10:30am