Health Budget Oversight Group
1st April 2:30pm
Conference call

Attendees

D/Health: Paul Bolger, Fiona Prendergast, Aidan Gilchrist , Aonraid Dunne, Caoimhe Dolan, David Bolger, Denise McCarthy, Eoin Halpin, Kevin Colman, Louise Carrigan, Rhona Broderick, Evan Walker, Claire Gordon

HSE: Alan Ryan, Colum Maddox, Jennifer O Callaghan, John Shiel, Nigel O'Keeffe, Sinead Stone, Stephen Mulvaney, Tony Patterson

D/PER: Ronnie Downes, David Owens, Terry Jennings, Patrick Moran, Deirdre Collins, Robert Scott, Sean Prior, Albert Morris, Cian McCarthy, Kevin O'Farrell

1. Introduction and Minutes

Minutes of last meeting (25.03) were agreed with some drafting revisions.

2. HSE COVID-19 Action Plan

The HSE presented an updated version of the Action Plan. Non-relevant costings, duplications and overlap have been removed. The HSE are moving from a planning phase to operational.

The speed at which sanction requests are being reviewed was discussed. A letter has been sent from SG D/PER to SG D/Health re sanction arrangements under the Plan.

Actions: PER to share this letter with HSE.

Actions: D/PER and FIN/Health will consolidate queries and communicate these with the HSE once this version of the action plan has been reviewed thoroughly.

3. Flash Report

The first Flash Report presented at the meeting, is for the reporting period up to 20th March. It will be presented at this weekly HBOG/ Finance subgroup meeting. The Report is for a broader audience, for example every member of the Executive Management team in the HSE receives this.

The report captures expenses incurred around planned responses. Likely impacts (not planned) will be added in time.

4. Community Hubs

The timeframe for the introduction of Community Hubs and sanctioning was discussed. The costings for these are based on gross costings.

5. **Nursing Homes proposal**

D/Health clarified that the temporary private nursing homes support proposal is outside of the Action Plan. The proposal was discussed with it being made clear that providing support for nursing homes is the key priority for Min Health this week.

6. **Pay & Staffing**

The proposal in regards hiring additional intern doctors to relieve pressure in the system was discussed. The costs associated with the additional intern doctors are incorporated into the expanding workforce costs included in the Action Plan.

It was outlined that more may be required as the plan is refined. However, the majority of vacancies and requirements have so far been through redeployments from within the HSE and other Departments.

D/Health confirmed that in the current fast changing circumstances, there is no new workforce plan or Pay and Number Strategy.

Actions: D/PER requested a note on the overall WTE requirements under the action plan.

7. **AOB**

It was confirmed that the Health spending memo will not be brought to the incorporeal meeting but there will be a full meeting early next week.

Next week's HBOG/ Fin subgroup meeting will discuss reporting and monitoring under new arrangements.

Next meeting: 8th April, 11am.

Log-in details to follow.