Health Budget Oversight Group Minutes

27th August 2020. 2:00pm

Health Service Executive:	Tim Cummins, Colum Maddox, Nigel O'Keefe, Damien McCallion, Mark O'Connor, Helen Byrne, Tony Patterson.
Department of Health:	Paul Bolger, Fiona Prendergast, Kevin Colman, Caoimhe Dolan, David Bolger, Eoin Halpin, Matthew Dignam, Aidan Gilchrist, Evan Walker, Mark Hennessy, Eoin Halpin, Shane Corr, Sharon Gilligan, Louise Carrigan
D/Public Expenditure & Reform:	Ronnie Downes (Chair), David Owens, Patrick Moran, Robert Scott

1. **Minutes & Agenda**

Minutes from the previous HBOG meeting from 30th July 2020 were agreed.

2. **Private Hospitals – cost update/tender state-of-play**

There was a brief discussion on the recent tender published online seeking to establish multi-annual arrangements with private healthcare providers for adult and paediatric day-case, inpatient and outpatient services, as well as a range of diagnostic services. It was noted that no indication of the anticipated costs of any such arrangement(s) have been specified at this stage.

3. **PPE – Latest**

DoH spoke about an imminent and updated analysis which would supplement the PwC model.

4. **Testing / Tracing Policy / Strategy**

A brief update on contract negotiations with laboratories was given by the HSE. An updated cost exercise model until year-end is being compiled and will be circulated shortly. Some reductions in unit costs were anticipated – with service usage also likely to increase.

A briefing for DPER on the wider testing strategy was also proposed and accepted.

5. **Capital Update**

There was an update on the additional DoH capital provided as part of the mid-year REV. Some underspends in C-19 capital sanctions were offset by others.

6. **Profiled Out-Turn 2020**

There was a broad discussion on potential end-year expenditure across a number of areas based on end-May outturn data.

Further work is continuing in this regard and DoH are to provide an update on the latest levels of New Development funding still held centrally.

Next meeting is scheduled for 10th September, 2:30pm.