

## NIMC Minutes 21 October 2022 11am – 1pm

### Blended Meeting – Department of Health, Miesian Plaza, and Microsoft Teams VC Platform

#### Attendees:

**Members:** Mr John Saunders (Chair), Ms Roisin Clarke, Ms Aisling Culhane (attended remotely<sup>1</sup>), Mr Maurice Dillon, Dr Joseph Duffy, Prof Siobhan MacHale (attended remotely), Dr Amir Niazi, Mr Ian Power, Mr John Meehan, Dr Brian Osborne (attended remotely), Mr Michael Ryan (attended remotely), Ms Siobhán Hargis, Mr Jim Ryan, Ms Kerry Cuskelly (attended remotely), Prof Daniel Flynn.

**Apologies:** Dr AnneMarie Waldron, Ms Kelly Mofflin.

**In attendance:** Dr Philip Dodd (DoH Mental Health Unit), Mr Barry Kestell (DoH Mental Health Unit), Mr Eric Keegan (DoH Mental Health Unit) (attended remotely), Mr Derek Chambers (HSE Implementation Group) (attended remotely), Dr Mark Smyth (Chair of Youth Mental Health Transitions Specialist Group) (attended remotely for agenda item 4)

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1. Minutes of previous NIMC Meeting 16 September 2022.
  - Minutes were approved (Mr Dillon proposed and Dr Duffy seconded) with no matters arising.
  - **Action: Secretariat to publish Minutes on DoH Website.**
2. Chair's Update
  - Chair updated regarding End of Year engagement with Chairs of Specialist Groups and Reference Group.
  - Chair raised the Reference Group's points regarding changing recommendations in Sharing the Vision. Advised that it is not within the remit of NIMC to change policy recommendations. Proposed writing to A/Sec McArdle seeking a Departmental position on this issue.
  - **Action: Chair to write to A/Sec Siobhán McArdle**
3. Committee Engagement
  - Dr Osborne presented a perspective to the committee.
  - The Committee discussed the diminishing numbers of GPs, impact on services, and possible solutions. Access to Healthlink in mental health services was also discussed. Mr Derek Chambers is progressing this, as per September meeting of NIMC.
  - **Action: Secretariat to circulate slides.**
4. Youth Mental Health Transitions Specialist Group Update
  - Dr Smyth, Chair of the Specialist Group, presented the Specialist Group's recommendation for a phased approach to the delivery of Workstream 2. The phased approach would include an 'Initial phase' (short-term goals implemented within 0-3 years), 'Intermediate phase' (medium-term goals implemented within 3-5 years), and a 'Final phase' (long-term goals implemented within 5+ years). A written document was circulated in advance of the meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise stated, attendees were present in-person.

- The Committee discussed the age range for transition from youth to adult mental health services, advantages and disadvantages, service user needs, practicalities, and insights generated from other specialities in which young people have transitioned from youth to adult services.
  - It was clarified that any recommendations coming from subgroups of the Specialist Group were brought back to the Specialist Group for consideration.
  - Dr Smyth noted that NIMC requested only recommendations for Workstream 2 and asked that NIMC also request an implementation plan.
  - **Action: Secretariat to circulate slides.**
  - **Action: HIG to revert to NIMC with a recommendation regarding incorporating the development of an implementation plan into the Terms of Reference for Workstream 2 of this Specialist Group.**
5. Acute Bed Capacity Specialist Group Update
- Mr Ryan presented on bed numbers and bed occupancy, staffing challenges, introducing international comparisons and recommendations.
  - The Committee discussed appropriate comparisons with other countries, issues surrounding counting beds in community versus acute settings, the representation of the number of beds per capita as opposed to the number of beds per CHO.
  - **Action: Secretariat to circulate slides.**
  - **Action: Acute Bed Capacity Specialist Group to present a written report to NIMC in Q4 2022.**
6. High Level Taskforce (HLTF)
- Dr Dodd presented an overview of the final report of HLTF.
  - The alignment between relevant Sharing the Vision and HLTF recommendations was highlighted.
  - The Committee discussed the implementation monitoring arrangements of the HLTF report recommendations. This is still being worked out and the detail will be provided to NIMC once completed.
7. Women's Mental Health Specialist Group Update.
- Prof MacHale provided a brief verbal update of work ongoing on the final report of the Women's Mental Health Specialist Group.
  - **Action: Prof MacHale to present final version of the final report of the Women's Mental Health Specialist Group at a future meeting.**
8. Recruitment – General Discussion
- A broad discussion took place regarding possible options to address recruitment/staffing issues.
  - Staff retention was highlighted as an issue in addition to recruitment. Workplace culture and conditions were highlighted as concerns.
  - Challenges and opportunities relating to broadening the skills mix were discussed.
  - **Action: Secretariat to develop short summary document capturing the discussion points raised in the meeting. This will support future discussion regarding recruitment.**

### Actions Arising from the Meeting

No.	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
1	Secretariat to publish Minutes on DoH Website.	Secretariat	18.11.2022
2	Chair to write to A/Sec McArdle.	Chair	18.11.2022
3	Secretariat to circulate slides from Committee Engagement presentation.	Secretariat	18.11.2022
4	Secretariat to circulate slides from Youth Mental Health Transitions Specialist Group update.	Secretariat	18.11.2022
5	HIG to revert to NIMC with a recommendation regarding incorporating the development of an implementation plan into the Terms of Reference for Workstream 2 of Youth Mental Health Transitions Specialist Group.	HIG	18.11.2022
6	Secretariat to circulate slides from Acute Bed Capacity Specialist Group update.	Secretariat	18.11.2022
7	Acute Bed Capacity Specialist Group to present a written report to NIMC in Q4 2022.	Mr J. Ryan	18.11.2022
8	Prof MacHale to present final version of the report of the Women's Mental Health Specialist Group at a future meeting.	Prof S. MacHale	18.11.2022
9	Secretariat to develop short summary document capturing the discussion points raised in the meeting. This will support future discussion regarding recruitment.	Secretariat	18.11.2022