

NIMC Minutes 16 December 2022 11am – 1pm

Microsoft Teams VC Platform

Attendees:

Members: Mr John Saunders (Chair), Mr Ian Power, Ms Roisin Clarke, Ms Aisling Culhane, Dr Joseph Duffy, Prof Siobhan MacHale, Dr Amir Niazi, Dr Brian Osborne, Mr Michael Ryan, Mr Jim Ryan, Ms Kerry Cuskelly, Prof Daniel Flynn, Dr AnnMarie Waldron, Ms Kelly Mofflin, Ms Siobhán Hargis.

Apologies: Mr Maurice Dillon, Mr John Meehan.

In attendance: Dr Philip Dodd (DoH Mental Health Unit), Ms Áine Driscoll (DoH Mental Health Unit), Mr Kevin Kelly (DoH Mental Health Unit), Ms Niamh O'Malley (DoH Mental Health Unit), Mr Derek Chambers (HSE Implementation Group), Ms Breda Rafter (DoH Strategic Workforce Planning, attended for agenda item 8).

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1. Minutes of previous NIMC Meeting 18 November 2022
 - Minutes were approved (Mr J. Ryan proposed and Ms Clarke seconded) with no matters arising.
 - **Action: Secretariat to publish Minutes on DoH Website.**

 2. Chair's Update
 - The Chair thanked Mr Power for taking on the role of Acting Chair at the previous meeting and proposed that Mr Power would assume the role of Acting Chair if required in 2023.
 - The Chair referenced correspondence with Ms Culhane regarding recruitment and correspondence from Children's Health Ireland, Paediatric Liaison Psychiatry and advised these items would be discussed later in the meeting.
 - The Chair and the NIMC agreed to the proposed NIMC meeting dates for 2023.
 - The Chair sought an update on the Youth Mental Health Transitions (YMHT) Specialist Group's development of an implementation plan.
 - Mr Chambers advised that Workstream 2 is on track to deliver a report into commissioned research from NUIG in January 2023. Mr Chambers outlined that Workstream 2 will produce a reconfiguration plan with practical recommendations, rather than a detailed implementation plan.
 - The Committee discussed the challenges of transition, the importance of youth and adult services communicating, considering international evidence whilst cognisant that other countries have different health systems, the significant implications of amending age groups in terms of service-delivery, risk and overall resourcing.
 - The Chair invited Mr Power to speak to his proposal for a NIMC 2023 workplan.
 - Mr Power proposed the development of a NIMC workplan for its meetings in 2023, suggesting more targeted and themed agendas, including a potential focus on HIG Workstreams, recruitment, Slaintecare etc. Following discussion, it was agreed that a draft workplan for NIMC meetings would be presented at the January meeting.
 - **Action: Mr Power to assume role of Acting Chair if required in 2023.**
 - **Action: HIG to present a report on YMHT Workstream 1 at the February meeting.**
 - **Action: HIG and NIMC Secretariats to draft a 2023 agenda template for discussion at the January meeting.**

 3. Acute Bed Capacity Specialist Group Update
 - Mr J Ryan advised that due to resource reallocation the Report would not be ready until mid-January and noted the additional effort involved in re-orienting the report to a Regional Health Area (RHA) perspective rather than a Community Healthcare Organisations (CHO)

perspective, as well as considering the Acute Bed Capacity Report in the context of a prioritised 10-year Capital Plan for mental health services.

- **Action: Mr J Ryan to present the Acute Bed Capacity Report at January 2023 meeting.**

4. Women's Mental Health Specialist Group Update

- Prof MacHale updated that feedback from the NIMC has now been incorporated into the final Report (as circulated to the NIMC), with due consideration being given to the implementation and implementation monitoring structures already in place for StV being utilised to provide oversight on the implementation.
- The Committee commended the approach to align with structures in place.
- The Chair noted it was positive to see a focus on performance and outcome measurement and reflected on the potential for oversight of areas such as women's mental health to be vested at individual member level in the next NIMC Steering Committee.
- **Action: Prof MacHale and Secretariat to propose options for launching the Report at January meeting.**

5. Recommendation 66

- Dr Dodd presented the Recommendation 66 position paper which had been circulated to NIMC members in advance.
- The Committee discussed the paper and approved the approach, observing that it would generate a network of links across departments that might be used in future for other projects. Ms Mofflin noted it would ensure mental health is an agenda item included in delivery of policies and strategies across departments. Ms Culhane observed this type of approach had worked well for the Women's Health Taskforce. Ms Clarke endorsed the overall approach.
- **Action: NIMC Secretariat to proceed with Recommendation 66 implementation as proposed.**

6. Traveller Health Action Plan

- Dr Dodd presented the Traveller Health Action Plan (THAP) noting 6 specific Traveller mental health actions of relevance for NIMC. A subgroup of the NTHAP implementation group will be set up to coordinate the mental health actions. NIMC should receive updates on the implementation of the 6 actions to ensure they are being implemented in the context of StV, via the HIG Social Inclusion Workstream reporting.
- Mr Chambers added that the subgroup includes HSE mental health and social inclusion representatives and has crossover with the Social Inclusion Workstream, whose lead Ms Camille Staunton had agreed to provide updates to NIMC.
- **Action: Secretariat to request regular updates from the HIG on THAP mental health actions, through the HIG Social Inclusion Workstream.**

7. Letter to Chair from Paediatric Liaison Psychiatry (PLP) in Children's Health Ireland

- The Committee welcomed the engagement from PLP and discussed access to emergency and out-of-hours services, the challenges associated with increasing volumes of patients, staff shortages, volumes of admissions related suicidality and self-harm presentations, delivering community beds, the engagement between paediatric services and community mental health services, the impact of the development of the National Children's Hospital on paediatric mental health services.
- **Action: NIMC members to provide further written commentary on the letter to Secretariat.**
- **Action: Secretariat to issue acknowledgement of receipt to PLP.**
- **Action: Chair to respond to PLP letter, following receipt of full commentary from the NIMC.**

- **Action: HIG to provide a written note on the current delivery of paediatric emergency and out-of-hours mental health services, with plans for reform (aligning with relevant StV recommendations) with a view to presenting at a future meeting of the NIMC (before end of Q1 2023).**

8. Recruitment and Workforce Planning

- Ms Rafter presented the DoH project to develop a Health and Social Care Workforce Planning Strategy, Action Plan and Planning Projection Model.
- The Committee discussed this with regards prioritisation of mental health professional roles, placements and funding, challenges such as regional workforce availability, workforce demographics and retention, and referenced the Recruitment Reform and Resourcing Programme presented to NIMC by Ms Eithne Fox (Assistant National Director, HSE HR) in June 2022.
- The Chair noted recruitment remains an issue and should remain on NIMC's agenda.
- **Action: Secretariat to circulate slides and re-circulate slides presented by Ms Fox at June 2022 meeting for context.**
- **Action: Dr Niazi to forward additional information on psychiatry specific staff retention information to Ms Rafter.**
- **Action: HIG and NIMC Secretariats to present proposal on how to ensure NIMC kept informed on the progress of ongoing work on workforce planning and recruitment.**

9. AOB

- Mr Saunders thanked the Committee, Dr Dodd and the Secretariat, Mr Chambers, the HSE and HIG for all their work over the course of 2022.

Actions Arising from the Meeting

No.	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe
1	Secretariat to publish Minutes on DoH Website.	Secretariat	20.01.2023
2	Mr Power to assume role of Acting Chair if required in 2023.	Mr Power	Ongoing 2023
3	HIG to present a report on YMHT Workstream 1 at the February meeting.	Mr Chambers	24.02.2023
4	HIG and NIMC Secretariats to draft a 2023 agenda template for discussion at the January meeting.	HIG and NIMC Secretariats	20.01.2023
5	Mr J Ryan to present the Acute Bed Capacity Report at January 2023 meeting.	Mr J Ryan	20.01.2023
6	Prof MacHale and Secretariat to propose options for launching the Report at January meeting.	Prof MacHale and Secretariat	20.01.2023
7	NIMC Secretariat to proceed with Recommendation 66 implementation as proposed.	Secretariat	Ongoing
8	Secretariat to request regular updates from the HIG on THAP mental health actions, through the HIG Social Inclusion Workstream.	Secretariat	Ongoing
9	NIMC members to provide further written commentary on the letter to Secretariat.	Secretariat	23.12.2023
10	Secretariat to issue acknowledgement of receipt to PLP.	Secretariat	23.12.2023
11	Chair to respond to PLP letter, following receipt of full commentary from the NIMC.	Chair	20.01.2023
12	HIG to provide a written note on the current delivery of paediatric emergency and out-of-hours	Mr Chambers	Q1 2023

	mental health services, with plans for reform (aligning with relevant StV recommendations) with a view to presenting at a future meeting of the NIMC (before end of Q1 2023).		
13	Secretariat to circulate slides and re-circulate slides presented by Ms Fox at June 2022 meeting for context.	Secretariat	20.01.2023
14	Dr Niazi to forward additional information on psychiatry specific staff retention information to Ms Rafter.	Dr. Niazi	20.01.2023
15	HIG and NIMC Secretariats to present proposal on how to ensure NIMC kept informed on the progress of ongoing work on workforce planning and recruitment.	HIG and NIMC Secretariats	20.01.2023