



FÓRSA



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2025

Health & Welfare  
Divisional Conference  
14th - 16th May 2025

Minutes of Health and Welfare Divisional Conference **2023**

Held in the Clayton Hotel, Ballybrit, Co. Galway from 24th-26th May 2023.

## In attendance:

Ms. Ashley Connolly, Head of Division  
Mr. Denis Keane, Assistant General Secretary  
Ms. Clodagh Kavanagh, Cathaoirleach  
Mr. Stephen Broderick, DEC  
Ms. Orla Carroll, DEC  
Mr. Michael Davis, DEC  
Ms. Bernadette Mooney, DEC  
Ms. Corinne Phelan, DEC  
Mr. Piarais Ryan, DEC

Ms. Linda Kelly, National Secretary  
Ms. Chris Cully, Assistant General Secretary  
Mr. Andy Meaney, Leas Cathaoirleach  
Ms. Helen Canning, DEC  
Ms. Paula Cregg, DEC  
Ms. Patricia Mellsop, DEC  
Mr. Jarlath O'Connor, DEC  
Mr. Daniel Sweeney, DEC

The following delegates were registered in advance of the Conference. Those marked PD are Principal Delegate for their branch.

Elizabeth Madden	Ballinasloe	PD
Deirdre Forde	Ballinasloe	
Teresa Dillon	Ballinasloe	
Martina Byrne	BVA	PD
John O'Hara	BVA	
Jack McCarthy	BVA	
Deirdre McCormack	BVA	
Ciara Ní Raghallaigh	BVA	
Dwayne Horace	BVA	
Jessica Gibson	BVA	
Tom Dowling	Carlow H&LG	PD
Suzanne Gunn	Cavan H&LG	PD
Sinead Fitzgerald	Cavan H&LG	
Pamela Armitage	Cavan H&LG	
Jackie Gallagher	Clare H&LG	PD
Fiona Ryan	Clare H&LG	
Mary K Kearney	Clare H&LG	
Niamh Milby	Cork H&LG	PD
Deirdre Collins	Cork H&LG	
Niamh Murphy	Cork H&LG	
Katie Dennehy	Cork H&LG	
Angela McGinley	Donegal H&W	PD
AnnMarie Boyle	Donegal H&W	
Mary Kelly	Donegal H&W	
Simon Rochford	Dublin Care Services	PD
David Mannion	Dublin Care Services	
Mark Kerins	Dublin Care Services	
Steven Sweetman	Dublin Care Services	
Michelle Kenny	Dublin Hospitals	PD
Ann Duggan	Dublin Hospitals	
Carol O'Flaherty	Dublin Hospitals	
Caroline Copperthwaite	Dublin Hospitals	
Jennifer Dowdall	Dublin Hospitals	
Mandy O'Neill	Dublin Hospitals	
Paddy Brock	Dublin Hospitals	
Paul Delany	Dublin Hospitals	
Petty Kaunda	Dublin Hospitals	
Sasha Strahan	Dublin Hospitals	
Stuart O'Connor	Dublin Hospitals	
Barry Herridge	Dublin North H&W	PD
Gavin McDonnell	Dublin North H&W	
Olivia McLoughlin	Dublin North H&W	
David O'Brien	Dublin North H&W	
Liz Butler	Dublin North H&W	

Rosemary Bracken	Dublin North H&W	
Nuala O'Neill	Dublin North H&W	
Colum Geraghty	Dublin South H&W	PD
Clifford Perrins	Dublin South H&W	
Manuelle Ratte	Dublin South H&W	
Shaun Doyle	Dublin South H&W	
Eoghan Daly	Dublin South H&W	
Susan Leatham	Dublin South H&W	
Anthony McGarry	Dublin South H&W	
Bernard Cantillon	Dublin South H&W	
Paul McCavera	Education Welfare Services	PD
Tony O'Connor	Education Welfare Services	
Evan Stapleton	Galway H&LG	PD
Rob Partridge	Galway H&LG	
Gordon Burke	Galway H&LG	
Annmarie Newell	Galway H&LG	
Elizabeth Whelan	Galway H&LG	
Maura Sweeney	Galway H&LG	
Lorraine Morrin	Galway H&LG	
Noritte Gallagher	Galway H&LG	
Aine O'Malley	Galway H&LG	
David Foley	Galway H&LG	
Anne Hill	Kerry H&LG	PD
Marie Nolan	Kerry H&LG	
Beatrice Savage	Kerry H&LG	
Margaret Goodwin	Kerry H&LG	
Anette Henriksson	Kerry H&LG	
Sophia Fitzgerald	Kerry H&LG	
Keivan Jackson	Kildare Health	PD
Gary Buckley	Kildare Health	
Tracy Clarke-Kiely	Kildare Health	
Phil Whyte	Kildare Health	
Liam Mullins	Kildare Health	
Sharon O'Brien	Kildare Health	
Kalyan Ram Kasuma	Kilkenny H&LG	PD
Mary Guinan	Kilkenny H&LG	
Anne Meally	Kilkenny H&LG	
Helen Champion	Kilkenny H&LG	
Lisa Corcoran	Kilkenny H&LG	
Henry Hennessy	Laois H&LG	PD
Ruth Roe	Laois H&LG	
Dan Hennessy	Laois H&LG	
Geraldine McLoughlin	Leitrim H&LG	PD
Noelle Cashin	Leitrim H&LG	
Niranjan Srinivasan	Limerick Health	PD
Maureen O'Keefe	Limerick Health	
Seamus Hourigan	Limerick Health	
Darren Enright	Limerick Health	
Steven Bray	Limerick Health	
Eamonn Ryan	Limerick Health	
Edwin Egharevba	Limerick Health	
Helen Barry	Limerick Health	
Sile Kelly	Limerick Health	
Linda Tucker	Limerick Health	
Trish Aherne	Limerick Health	
Paula Lloyd	Longford H&LG	PD
Padraic Durkin	Longford H&LG	
Angela Cunningham	Longford H&LG	
Marie Fogarty Brady	Louth H&LG	PD

Jessica O'Malley	Louth H&LG	
Barbara Kelly	Louth H&LG	
Theresa Clarke	Louth H&LG	
Ann Marie Walsh	Mayo H&LG	PD
Marie Reilly	Mayo H&LG	
Richard Forde	Mayo H&LG	
Orla Heaney	Mayo H&LG	
Noreen Mitchell	Mayo H&LG	
Grainne Muldoon	Meath H&LG	PD
Grace Doyle	Meath H&LG	
Joe Kellegher	Meath H&LG	
Fred Nelson	Meath H&LG	
Angela Walsh	Monaghan H&LG	PD
Catriona Moen	Monaghan H&LG	
Paul Gibbons	Monaghan H&LG	
Pauline Keeshan	Offaly H&LG	PD
Paddy Payne	Offaly H&LG	
Ronan Clarke	Offaly H&LG	
Jimmy Todd	Offaly H&LG	
Theresa Cole	Offaly H&LG	
Dion Hegarty	Roscommon H&LG	PD
Frances Timon	Roscommon H&LG	
Josie Glynn	Roscommon H&LG	
Sharon Moffitt Grady	Roscommon H&LG	
Denis Rooney	Sligo H&LG	PD
Sinead Costello	Sligo H&LG	
Neil Rooney	Sligo H&LG	
Stefan Stewart	Sligo H&LG	
Annis McGuinn	Sligo H&LG	
Jim Pender	Sligo H&LG	
Brian Rattigan	Sligo H&LG	
Sean MacDomhnall	Sligo H&LG	
PJ Kennedy	Tipp North H&C	PD
Brenda Lynch	Tipp North H&C	
Colette O'Connell	Tipp South H&C	PD
Deirdre Whelan	Tipp South H&C	
Michael Harhen	Tipp South H&C	
Jacinta Cremmins	Tipp South H&C	
Denis Larkin	Tipp South H&C	
Patrick Morrissey	Tipp South H&C	
Catherine Slattery	Waterford H&LG	PD
Barry Walshe	Waterford H&LG	
Audrey McDonald	Waterford H&LG	
Michael Keating	Waterford H&LG	
Dean McGrath	Waterford H&LG	
Charney Weitzman	Westmeath H&W	PD
Anne Marie Ryan	Westmeath H&W	
Harry Whelan	Westmeath H&W	
Anna Carroll	Westmeath H&W	
Kate Miskella	Wexford H&LG	PD
Mary Nolan	Wexford H&LG	
Bob Bent	Wexford H&LG	
Marie Divilly	Wexford H&LG	
Margaret Coughlan	Wicklow Health	PD
Ian Harte	Wicklow Health	

## 1. Opening of Conference

The Conference was opened by the Cathaoirleach, Ms. Clodagh Kavanagh. The Cathaoirleach welcomed all in attendance and outlined the arrangements for the Conference, which was hosted in the Clayton Hotel, Ballybrit, Co. Galway.

## 2. Adoption of general standing orders

General standing orders were proposed by Mr. Gerry Foley, Standing Orders Committee, and adopted.

## 3. Standing orders reports 1 to 2

Proposed by Mr. Gerry Foley, Standing Orders Committee, and adopted.

## 4. Cathaoirleach address to Conference

The Cathaoirleach, Ms. Clodagh Kavanagh addressed the Conference.

## 5. Fórsa Health and Welfare Biennial Report 2021 – 2023

Endorsed by the Cathaoirleach and adopted.

## 6. Presentation of Distinguished Service Awards

This was presented by Mr. Michael Smyth, President, Fórsa to Ms. Bernadette Devlin for her years of commitment and service in a voluntary capacity.

## 7. Declaration of election results by returning officer, Ms. Eileen Coman

The election results were ratified.

## 8. Guest speakers

### Thursday 25th May 2023

Address by Mr. Bernard Gloster, CEO, Health Service Executive.

Online address by Sinead Gibney, Chief Commissioner, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission "Care – a core trade union issue."

Address by Ms. Linda Kelly, National Secretary for Health and Social Care Professionals, Pharmacy and Statutory Regulation.

### Friday 26th May 2024

Address by Stephen Donnelly, Minister for Health followed by response from Ms. Ashley Connolly, Head of Division.

Address by Kevin Callinan, General Secretary, Fórsa.

Address by Mr. Michael Smyth, President, Fórsa.

Fringe event: Rise of the Far Right by Ms Aoife Gallagher, Analyst, Institute of Strategic Dialogue.

## 9. Address by National Secretary for Health and Social Care Professionals, Pharmacy and Statutory Regulation

Ms. Linda Kelly addressed Conference. She highlighted the core issues impacting members across disabilities and community health networks, emphasising the need for deeper engagement to develop sustainable and practical solutions.

## 10. Address by Head of Division

Ms. Ashley Connolly addressed the Conference in response to Mr. Donnelly. She also provided an in-depth outline of the ongoing industrial relations issues including the priority areas for the division for the forthcoming term.

## 11. Motions before Conference

Please see action on motions document 2023 for full outline.

## 12. Close of business

Cathaoirleach thanked all the delegates for attending and brought the conference to a close.  
Conference ends.



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Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny

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