

Minutes
Research Subgroup of the Expert Advisory Group
12 June 2020, 4pm (by telecall)

Present: Colm Bergin (CB) (Co-Chair), Cliona O’Farrelly (CO’F) (Co-Chair), Mark Ferguson (MF), Ana Terres (AT), Ivan Perry (IP), Stephen Kinsella (SK), Orla Feely (OF), Mairéad O’Driscoll (MO’D), Teresa Maguire (TM), Siobhán O’Sullivan (SO’S)

Minutes: Peter Doherty

ITEM	Discussion	ACTIONS
1.	Agreed: Minutes from 5 June 2020 - Approved	
2.	Conflict of Interest Declarations - No	
3.	Research proposal update - CB noted that it was proposed at the most recent meeting of NPHEt that the research paper would be tabled at the following Thursday’s NPHEt meeting	- revise document for circulation to group by Monday evening - Members will provide feedback no later than Wed AM in order that doc will be forwarded for NPHEt agenda for Thursday 18 th June
4.	Biobank update - The REAG draft paper needs to be revised and finalised following receipt of the feedback from the EAG- and re-tabled at EAG and NPHEt for 18 June. - CB updated the group on a meeting which had taken place on a COVID-19 biobank at the request of Colm Henry, CCO HSE. Following the discussion of the REAG paper on biobanks at the EAG meeting the HSE received a subsequent proposal on the same issue from the CAO group. The co-chairs attended this meeting with the CCO. - CB noted that he has been asked by CH/HSE to synthesise the essence of the clinical value proposition from a covid-19 biobank and a possible governance framework	- members to finalise draft paper - CB to share a draft document to all over the weekend for comment before sending on to CH/HSE
5.	Update on EMPL Committee’s Vote - Members discussed the recent discussions at the EU Employment Committee on this matter and the pending publication of the decision of the EU Commission	- DoH to forward letter and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CB circulated a letter to members in advance of the meeting. As co-chair of REAG, he co-signed a letter to the HSA which was tabled at NPHEt the day before - Members noted their strong support for the letter and the importance of keeping a watching brief on developments at EU level 	note on context to the Permanent Secretary in the EU
6.	<p>Self-Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group discussed its work to date and possible next steps, taking into account the evolving perspectives, structure and needs of NPHEt and EAG - Some members proposed less frequent meetings. It was agreed to continue with weekly meetings until at least the end of June. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The secretariat will draft a high-level summary of the points raised in the discussion - This summary will be circulated to members for further commentary for meeting of Friday 19th of June
7.	<p>Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members were informed about the receipt of an FOI by the Department of Health which pertains to an REAG document tabled at NPHEt. The relevant documents circulated by way of a reminder to the group in advance of the meeting. - TM outlined the FOI process which would be deployed - EAG minutes are now accessible on the DoH website, thus enabling REAG minutes to be uploaded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DoH to progress release of docs under FOI - PD and TM to engage with EAG and NPHEt secretariat re: uploading of REAG minutes
8.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Meeting ends 17:32</p>	