



**National Public Health Emergency Team – Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)
Meeting Note**

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| Date and Time | 4 th February 2020 (Meeting 3) |
| Location | Department of Health, Miesian Plaza, Dublin 2 |
| Chair | Dr Tony Holohan, CMO |
| Members in Attendance | Dr Colm Henry, Chief Clinical Officer (CCO), HSE Dr Kevin Kelleher, Asst. National Director, Public Health, HSE Dr Cillian de Gascun, Laboratory Director, NVRL Dr John Cuddihy, Acting Director, HSE HPSC Ms Denise Long, General Manager, Office of Emergency Planning, HSE Mr David Leach, Communications, HSE Mr Paul Connors, Communications, HSE Ms Trish Markam, Emergency Planning, HSE Mr Ciaran Browne, Acute Operations, HSE Dr Jeanette McCallion, Medical Assessor, HPRA Mr Sean Egan, Head of Healthcare Regulation, HIQA (via teleconference) Dr Ronan Glynn, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, DOH Dr Colette Bonner, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, DOH Mr Eddie O'Reilly, Communicable Diseases Policy Unit, DOH Mr David Noonan, GP Services and GMS Contract Unit, DOH Ms Deirdre Watters, Communications Unit, DOH |
| Apologies | N/A |
| In Attendance | Ms Aoife Gillivan, Communications Unit, DOH |
| Secretariat | Ms Rosarie Lynch and Ms Claudine Hughes, Patient Safety Surveillance Unit, NPSO, DOH |

1. Welcome and Matters Arising

The Chair welcomed the group and introductions were made. Suggestions from NPHE members for other possible members as this process progresses, would be welcomed. It was acknowledged that experts and other stakeholders may be requested to attend from time to time.

2. Conflict of Interest Declarations

All members were asked to complete a COI form.

3. Note of Previous Meeting

It was agreed that the note of the previous meeting would be tabled at each subsequent meeting. Observations from NPHE members on same should be returned to DOH by COB Thursday each week with aim to publish on DOH website.

4. Matters arising

Covered by meeting agenda.

5. Situational Analysis and Governance

The HPSC Situational Analysis was tabled. This analysis consists of two parts. The data component is provided by the HPSC and preparedness component is provided by the HSE.

It was noted that the HPSC website now links directly to the latest WHO epidemiological data.



A discussion took place regarding about the schedule of meetings across all agencies and the need to ensure that all operate in a harmonised manner.

Action: DOH Secretariat to work with HPSC to map schedule of these meetings.

A process for communicating with the Expert Advisory Group (EAG) was agreed. When expert technical advice is required, NPHE will write formally to and EAG will formally write back.

6. Updates on current situation (for information and discussion)

(a) Current Assessment/Epidemiology

HPSC: The daily situational analysis for 4th February 2020 was tabled (as above).

WHO: The WHO current advice was acknowledged. The current advice remains one of containment i.e. identifying every case regardless of severity (rather than mitigation which focuses on the highest priority individuals).

EU Health Security Committee: DOH attended a teleconference of the EU Health Security Committee prior to the meeting. An update was provided regarding ports and airports, PPE, procurement and preparedness planning. The ECDC is due to publish an updated risk assessment.

UK and Northern Ireland: Communication continues with UK/Northern Ireland counterparts. Slight variance was noted in UK vs European advice on “self-isolation” of travellers returning from Mainland China.

Action: Expert advice sought from NPHE to Chair of EAG on advice that should be provided in light of UK and ECDC advice.

(b) Preparedness

Subsequent to the updates provided by the HSE at previous meetings, the further updates were provided in the following areas: Acute Hospitals, Occupational Health, Procurement, Pre-hospital Services, HSE Community Operations and Port Health.

Subsequent to the update provided by the HPRA at previous meetings, the HPRA noted that the EMA have reconvened an EAG to work with the WHO on clinical trials and research.

NVRL confirmed that their capacity to test is now fully functional.

7. Interaction with Government Departments

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT): The travel advisory in place and WHO advice were noted.

Department of Social Protection (DSP): DOH has contacted the Department of Social Protection to raise the issue of sick leave/extended work absences with the office of CMO there.

Department of Education and Skills (DES): There is planned engagement regarding the dissemination of appropriate informational documents to educational institutions.



Action: Updated HPSC public health communications are being prepared for educational institutions. This will be forwarded to DOH. DOH to forward to DES colleagues to distribute through all schools.

Chinese Embassy meeting is confirmed for Friday 8th February. HSE and DOH officials to attend.

8. Communications planning

The HSE continue to develop communications materials and engage with their staff and other stakeholders.

DOH have issued press statements on this matter.

Action: Agreement that the Comms teams in the HSE and DOH would continue to liaise together on communications and forward planning.

9. AOB

There was discussion regarding the format of the situational analysis. This will be further discussed at future meetings.

Action: Observations on situational report back by Friday to HSE Public Health and HPSC for discussion at next NPHET.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 11th February at 3pm