

eHEALTH NEWSLETTER

A monthly newsletter brought to you by the eHealth Communications Team.
If you wish to contribute please contact us at communications.ehealth@hse.ie

Capital Plan and Recruitment Update

By Fran Thompson
Chief Information Officer

We are nearing the end of the first quarter of 2023 already and we are at the final stages of approvals for increased staffing for eHealth under the Cyber Transformation initiative.

We have seen our department grow over the last 6+ years from a very low level to our latest recorded headcount at the end of January to 831 and our hope is to reach 1000 eHealth professionals by year end. Their role is to support our services and deliver patient care in a safe and effective way.

The eHealth and ICT Capital plan for 2023 sets out our technical transformation agenda or change agenda for the year. We have a total €140m to invest, and we've allocated, in consultation with relevant services, that investment across three broad categories, in a similar fashion to last year.

1. Foundational Infrastructure (€30.1m)

The foundational Infrastructure category is augmented by a further €17.6m funding from the Cyber Transformation programme. The Cyber programme will run in parallel to our ICT Capital plan this year.

2. Existing Transformation Programmes (€103.4m).

The distinction between categories 2 and 3, is really where the programmes are in their lifecycle. We know that very many of our ICT Projects and programmes are multi-annual in nature, and there's a pattern in terms of the spending profile that's fairly consistent.

Continued to next page.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Capital Plan & Recruitment Update from Fran Thompson CIO	1
International Womens Day 2023	2
Training & Development Courses	3
eHealth - making a difference MN-CMS	4
National Quality & Patient Safety Directorate	5
National Reading Month	6
Community Health Delivery Staff Day	7-8
HealthIRL - What's in a name?	9
HSE Data Collaborathon	10
Lunch & Learn	11
Snomed Vendor Specifications Document for HSE Procurement of new systems	11
CTO Staff Day	12
Upcoming Events	13
Pets Corner	14
eHealth Induction	15
Meet our new colleagues	16

Delivery of outcome aligns with capital expenditure, therefore in the early years, they don't spend much, but there's some serious heavy lifting put in by relatively small teams to get business cases, governance, sanction, funding, procurement and mobilisation all in place, before the real business of implementation and delivery of outcomes commences. Then the on the ground hard work of configuration and change management starts. We do have to find ways to accelerate the stages.

The programmes that feature in category 2, are those that are at the delivery of outcomes and benefits phase – the implementation years. Category 3 covers those transformation programmes towards the beginning of their lifecycle. The commitments of five major HSE Board approved priority programmes (IFMS, CHI EHR, MedLIS, Maternal/

Newborn and NIMIS) combined total of €67.47m in 2023, or 48.2% of available ICT Capital funding. This leaves a balance of €72.53m, or 52.2% to advance all other programmes across the three investment categories.

3. New Transformation Programmes (€6.5m)

Newer transformation ICT enabled projects are critical to the success of the health service reform agenda, Sláintecare and other strategic priorities. These newer and emerging priorities must be driven now, so that they deliver real and meaningful value in the coming months and years.

All of that said, another very intense eHealth agenda is set for 2023.

eHealth Celebrating International Women's Day 2023

By Helena Murphy

Social Media Lead eHealth Communications

International Women's Day is an important way for us to recognise the contributions and achievements of all the women working across eHealth. We have remarkable women leading and supporting people, programmes and projects across many of the functions within eHealth.

We want to celebrate and acknowledge the innovative strides that women; not only in eHealth but across the wider HSE are forging in digital transformation. As part of our acknowledgement

programme we have invited our colleagues across eHealth to share what roles they play in digital transformation in the HSE; and what advice they would have for other women who may want to join the technology sector in the Health Service Executive.

Click on the image below to view the collage of slides for our eHealth IWD or you can read each slide on ehealthireland.ie.



Access each playlist below by clicking on the image.

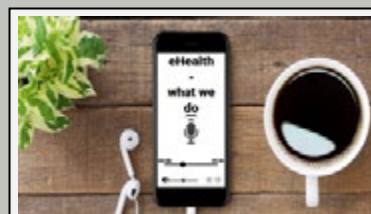
Our eHealth YouTube Channel can only be accessed by the links published here.

If your team would like more information on how you can utilise this platform for your teams' benefit, contact:

communications.ehealth@hse.ie



Sharing Insights



Backstage with eHealth



HSeLand



Health & Wellbeing

eHealth Training & Development

A schedule of our upcoming courses is listed below:

Stress Management & Resilience

Date	Duration	Venue	Start & Finish Times	Closing Date
20/04/23	1 day	The Richmond Education and Event Centre No 1 North Brunswick Street, D7.	09:30 – 17:00	01/04/23

Getting Ready for Retirement

Date	Duration	Venue	Start & Finish Times	Closing Date
10/05/23	1 day	The Richmond Education and Event Centre No 1 North Brunswick Street, D7.	09:30 – 17:00	30/04/23

Presentation Skills – Presenting with Presence

Date	Duration	Venue	Start & Finish Times	Closing Date
11/05/23	1 day	The Richmond Education and Event Centre No 1 North Brunswick Street, D7.	09:30 – 17:00	01/05/23

Managing People Using HR Policies

Date	Duration	Venue	Start & Finish Times	Closing Date
08/06/23	1 day	The Richmond Education and Event Centre No 1 North Brunswick Street, D7.	09:30 – 17:00	25/05/23
08/11/23	1 day	The Richmond Education and Event Centre No 1 North Brunswick Street, D7.	09:30 – 17:00	25/10/23

Administration Development Programme

Date	Duration	Venue	Start & Finish Times	Closing Date
11/10/23 12/10/23	2 days	The Richmond Education and Event Centre No 1 North Brunswick Street, D7.	09:30 – 17:00	30/09/23

If you are interested in attending any of these programmes and have line-manager approval to do so, please [enrol via HSeLanD](#).

If you are experiencing problems trying to locate or enrol onto a course, please [review our support documents](#).

Alternatively please contact ehhealth.training@hse.ie and we will be happy to assist you.

Parking at [The Richmond](#) is limited and offered on a first come, first-served basis. Smithfield Car Park is 5mins from the venue. [Click here](#) if you wish to book in advance.

View our 2023 eHealth Training Prospectus [here](#)

eHealth - making a difference

MN-CMS - Fully Integrated Electronic Health Record

By Mary Mullins

Change and Transformation, Risk Management Lead

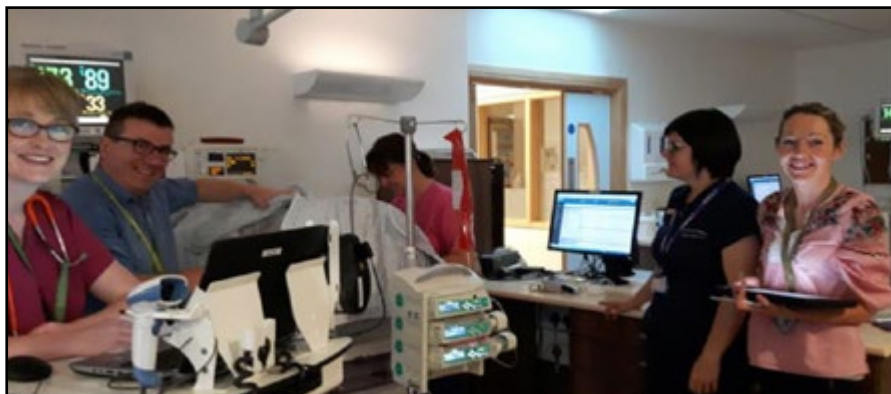
The Maternal and Newborn Clinical Management System (MN-CMS) Programme provides a single Electronic Health Record (EHR) for women and babies in maternity and gynaecology services in Ireland. It transformed healthcare delivered in CUMH, UHK, NMH and the Rotunda and is progressing to Phase II to incorporate the Coombe Woman and Infants University Hospital and University Maternity Hospital Limerick.

Clinicians identified the need to digitise the national maternity record to enhance access to patient information, improve clinical documentation, patient safety and data driven care. A detailed design specification was developed by clinicians in consultation with colleagues at all 19 maternity units. The public procurement process commenced in 2011 and concluded with contract signing and Programme initiation in 2014.

The objective was to design and implement an EHR which would support the provision of safe, effective, and timely care for women and babies in Ireland by improving communication, legibility, and access to the chart by relevant providers of care as and when required. This was achieved working collaboratively with ICT and a 3rd party software provider.

Benefits

Return on investment for the HSE, patients and clinicians include qualitative and quantitative benefits, and the national standard facilitates scalability to all maternity services.



Photograph above shows innovation in action - multidisciplinary users of the system.

The key benefits include:

- Improved patient care through better communication, supported decision making and effective planning of care.
- Effective and efficient recording of information reflecting best standards in documentation.
- Enhanced clinical audit and research with better quality data.
- Informed business intelligence for local and national management decisions.
- Quantitative savings through changes in work practices, use of resources and staff redeployment.

The learning

- Projects do not end at Go-Live; funding must be provided to ensure the on-going support for project optimisation/development.

- Key to a successful EHR implementation is resourcing a project team to manage the full lifecycle process - this must include senior clinicians.
- Engage all clinical disciplines, administration, and 3rd party providers from the earliest possible time to ensure that all needs are considered at design and build stage.
- Training is a key priority, is on-going and must include training of senior clinicians.

Testimonials:

"The Maternal and Newborn Clinical Management System (MN-CMS) represents one of the most significant recent developments in healthcare in Ireland"

Dr. Michael Robson, Clinical Director

"One of the major benefits of the MNCMS is standardisation of documentation for the care provided; it leads to improved care through clinical decision support such as the iMEWS and Sepsis alerts and the support of national guidance"

Professor Richard Greene, CCIO.

"Internationally some of the key benefits of EHRs relate to improvements in medication safety - MN-CMS has demonstrated that"

Professor Brian Cleary, Medication Lead.

"MN-CMS is a 'pathfinder' project, it is internationally unique, no other country has implemented a national shared maternity electronic health record with the same levels of integration"

Dr. Brendan Murphy, Neonatology Lead.



Photograph above shows a group attending MNCMS Training

National Quality & Patient Safety Directorate

QPS Education & Learning Programmes

By **Veronica Hanlon**

Educationalist, QPS Education,
Quality and Patient Safety Directorate, HSE.

The National Quality and Patient Safety Directorate publishes their annual Prospectus of QPS Education and Learning Programmes

Who are we?

The National Quality and Patient Safety Directorate (NQPSD) works in partnership with HSE operations, patient representatives and other partners to improve patient safety and quality of care. Everything we do is anchored in the [Patient Safety Strategy 2019-2024](#). A key commitment of this strategy is to empower and engage staff and patients to improve patient safety. We aim to honour this commitment by supporting a culture of continual learning through education programmes, resources and learning opportunities. To that extent, we are delighted to launch our annual Prospectus of Quality and Patient Safety education and learning programmes.

What is the QPS Prospectus?

This prospectus provides information about the education and learning programmes available to all staff, students and patient partners through e-learning, virtual learning and face to face workshops. Our programmes cover key areas relating to quality and patient safety such as:

- Quality Improvement
- Incident Management
- Open Disclosure
- Clinical Audit
- Human Factors

This year we are pleased to include contributions from our colleagues in National Governance and Risk, National Complaints, Governance and Learning, the National Safeguarding Office, AMRIC (Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control) Organisation Development, Change and Innovation as well as information about programmes offered by the Library Services to support education, learning and research.



How will this resource help you?

If you are interested in improving the quality of the service you provide or are currently involved in implementing a change, then the Prospectus will provide details of a number of learning programmes that can support you.

For example:-

- Introduction to Quality Improvement
- Foundation in Quality Improvement
- Working as a Team for Improvement
- Delivering Change in Health Services
- Change Consultation Clinics
- Change Guide in Action

We hope you find it a useful resource to support you in your own professional development and we look forward to welcoming you onto our programmes in 2023.

You can read more about the [National Quality & Patient Safety Directorate \(NQPSD\)](#) [here](#) and click the image above to view our prospectus.

You can contact us at
QPS.EDUCATION@hse.ie

EAPandME
Employee Assistance Programme

Many of us experience stresses and strains in our work and personal lives and might be wondering if there is anyone there to help.

Call **0818 327 327**
to speak to someone who can help.

Recruitment:
eHealth.recruitment@hse.ie
eHealth.hr@hse.ie

Employee Relations
Employeerelations.ehealth@hse.ie

Training & Development
eHealth.training@hse.ie

Mobile Telephony
Mobile.queries@hse.ie
Mobile.ne@hse.ie

Finance
Finance: infrastructure.orders@hse.ie
Capital: revenue.po@hse.ie

Executive Support:
DSHmgt.Support@hse.ie
New Staff: NewStaffIT.ehealth@hse.ie

Communications
Communications.ehealth@hse.ie

eHealth REPORTING

eHealth reports are available to all staff on our shared Teams Folder - Click here to view.

National Reading Month

By Tadhg Pentony
Training & Development Team

As we enter the month of March which is national reading month which is in honour of Dr Seuss who was born on March 2, 1904. Here is a list of the many benefits of reading followed by a recommendation of books to read.

Not only is reading a form of entertainment in which one can lose themselves in a different world for hours. It also has many benefits aside from expanding knowledge, reducing stress to even improving sleep.

Exercises the Brain

While reading instead of relying on the visual aspect we have to rely on imagination building a world and creating details throughout it. This forces the brain to remember scenarios throughout reading the course of the book therefore improving memory function resulting in exercising the brain.

Reading Improves Concentration and the Ability to Focus

When reading to truly understand the story we must devote our full focus to what is on the page in front of us. In the world we now live in where gadgets are becoming faster this is in turn shortening our attention span. With reading requiring the full undivided attention of the reader this is therefore increasing concentration and ability to focus.

Reading Improves Literacy

On to a more academic benefit when reading it is not uncommon to come across a word that is unfamiliar, or we have not seen often. Throughout reading the more often you come across unfamiliar words you effectively grow your vocabulary. It can also in addition benefit one's skills by helping the reader learn and understand different writing styles.

Reading Improves Sleep

You can easily set up a bedtime routine by reading before you go to bed. In our generation where we heavily rely on screens by putting away the screen and picking up a book it signals the brain it is now time to calm down. Also, with reading helping to de-stress doing this can relieve anxiety resulting in a more peaceful nights sleep.

Reading Reduces Stress

Reading can grab one's full attention and transporting the reader to a different world. This can reduce stress as the reader is no longer caught up with their problems but is now in a world where their problems are no more - in turn reducing stress.

Books to read:

Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy
Madame Bovary by Gustave Flaubert
War and Peace by Leo Tolstoy
The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
Lolita by Vladimir Nabokov
Middlemarch by George Eliot
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
The Stories of Anton Chekhov by Anton Chekhov
In Search of Lost Time by Marcel Proust
Hamlet by William Shakespeare



Welcome to another month for our eHealth Book Club. Our book club meeting will take place today:

**Tuesday 14 March, 2023
at 1pm via MS Teams**

New members are always welcome to join and you can email us on:
communications.ehealth@hse.ie

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at lunchtime. If you haven't read the book you are still encouraged to join us for a chat and a cuppa. Its always fun to link in on a teams call that isn't work related!



Community Health Delivery

2023 Staff Day in Limerick

By Ciara O'Shea

Senior ICT Project Officer, Community Health.



Photographed above Mary Cooke, Delivery Director Community Health.

On March 1st, the Community Health team had their first 2023 staff day in the Clayton Hotel Limerick.

The morning began with programme status updates from team members. The project managers and business analysts also discussed their particular roles in the project. We also included an Icebreaker Bingo session where team members would have to get to know their

colleagues. This showed us who the competitive ones were!

Ray Daly, Senior Project Manager, presented and gave some shared learning on his recent attendance at the Health Summit. In the afternoon, Fiona Maye, Senior Project Manager, discussed Change Management and her experience with change management on an eHealth Project. There was also a special guest

appearance from Fran Thompson (CIO). Fran gave an update to the team on where eHealth is right now and the plans going forward.

The day was a great success and thanks to all involved.



Fran Thompson, CIO updated the audience on eHealth.



Ray Daly, Senior Project Manager discussed shared learning from the recent Health Summit.



Fiona Maye, Senior Project Manager discussed Change Management.



Community Health Delivery - Senior Management Day

On February 28th, the Community Health Senior Managers gathered in the new eHealth Offices in Henry Street Limerick. Allyson Donnelly and Thelma Pentony gave an overview on HR Policies and Procedures to our new and existing managers. The feedback from the day proved to be informative and enjoyable. Special thanks to Allyson and Thelma for taking the time to join us for our quarterly meeting.

Photograph below showing our SMT and the second photograph shows Allyson Donnelly presenting to the group.



Senior Community Health Manager's Day.



Allyson Donnelly presenting to the group.

HealthIRL - What's in a name?

The experience in HSE Mid-West Community Healthcare CHO3

By Jerry Giltenane

Digital Health/ICT General Manager, CHO3.



"Be Yourself: Everyone Else is taken"
Oscar Wilde

Identity has always been a critical part of humanity through the ages. Identity is an important element of what makes us who we are. Identity is of course closely connected to the use of names throughout history.

The concept of digital identity is relatively new, however. For many of us who grew up in the 'analogue' era showing our passports to go through security at airports or using our driver's licenses to verify our age at bars (not so much for me recently!), it is second nature to provide proof of our credentials in a physical setting. Providing this proof of ourselves isn't quite so simple in a digital world.

According to a recent article by Deloitte, "If an organization gets their digital identity right it leads to more efficiency, revenue and transformational benefits with an enhanced user experience for colleagues, and a differentiating digital journey for customers or citizens".

HealthIRL is a key national HSE Digital Identity programme to migrate all users, devices and mailboxes from 8 legacy regional based domains to a central shared domain known as HealthIRL. In fact, it could be thought in simple terms as replacing 8 historical surnames in use throughout the HSE nationally with one

common surname to create one overall family in the HSE (in the digital sense) and to ensure a consistent digital identity for all HSE staff. HealthIRL will allow the HSE to have a central single view of all resources, which enables best practice identity management and access management controls, with centralised governance and improve cyber security defence.

As Digital lead for CHO3 and in conjunction with the Chief Officer, we identified that HealthIRL was a key priority for our area and a stepping stone to meet the future business needs, in terms of future applications, cyber security needs and improved digital collaboration, particularly as there was a very small saturation of HealthIRL in the region. We identified about 4000 users that needed to be checked and came up with an implementation plan to migrate any legacy domain users over to HealthIRL.

A critical part of the implementation plan was the support from the CO and the Heads of Service in terms of nominating HealthIRL leads for each service that worked very closely with the CHO3 Digital Health and the HealthIRL teams. We had weekly meetings (daily ones as well for specific purposes) and these leads played a critical role in getting data back from all staff in each service that was then used to plan an accelerated rollout plan. We were also one of the first CHOs to use the new

S1iD process, known as "SID" for staff data collection as well and this was a huge help in our process. Users were nervous at the start, but a collaborative approach from the Digital Health team and HealthIRL migration programme helped alleviate these concerns.

Migrations weren't always perfect, but overall, experience was quite good and the HealthIRL team worked hard to resolve any issues in a speedy and seamless manner. Users became more confident as earlier users had a mostly positive experience and thanks to the very close relationship between the CHO3 Digital Health and HealthIRL migration teams, the programme delivered an effective migration strategy, with an engaged business team, meeting programme needs.

We also started to use a hub and spoke model as well to allow more and more migrations to happen on a daily basis and of course we relied heavily on tools such as MS Teams, Sharepoint etc. (some of the benefits of HealthIRL) to ensure an organised and easily assessable set of project data.

We are planning to have CHO3 completed in Q2 in terms of HealthIRL and as noted, the close working relationships between Digital Health and the HealthIRL teams and the fantastic nominated service leads has been critical to our progress to date, as well of course a touch of good old fashioned hard work, as it is a laborious and technical process and we certainly look forward to getting it completed in the next few months and to be all one big happy digital family!

Photographed above L-R: Jerry Giltenane, Julia Marcz, Sarah Creede.

eHealth Communications would like to hear from you if you have a colleague working in the HSE that would be interested in doing a piece like Jerry Giltenane, GM in CHO3 on the positive impact of eHealth innovation on their service.

Contact us at:
communications.ehealth@hse

HSE Data Collaborathon

Get Your Data Right - Get Right to the Heart of Patient Health

By Sean Toner

Training & Development



Over one hundred people attended the Data Collaboration event held on 1st March in Southgate, Drogheda. Event attendance was both in-person and virtual, where the decisive message from the day was “Get Your Data Right. Get Right to the Heart of Patient Health”.

The event provided great variety with insight from a number of divisions and a fantastic line-up of Keynote speakers including;

- Maria McCann, Director of Identity Management Services (IMS).
- Loretto Grogan, National Chief Nursing & Midwifery Information Officer.
- Kerry Ryder, Business Analyst of Health Intelligence Unit.
- Mary Deasy, Data Protection Officer.
- Mark Bagnell, General Manager Strategy & PMO, Integrated Information Services (IIS).
- Theresa Barry, Clinical Terminology Architecture Lead.

There was some great eHealth representation at the event with Chief Operations Officer Michael Redmond providing the opening address where he stated that while working in the HSE, not only are we operating and using the biggest ICT digital platform in the country, we are also swimming in a vast ocean of data. Therefore it is of great importance that this data is carefully reviewed and mined for it to be stored and delivered

effectively across the organisation.

Mark Bagnell of IIS covered how data is used, collected and processed within eHealth and reiterated Michael’s point of effectively reviewing and mining data. IIS were involved in COVAX and the issuing of approximately 9.3 million Digital Covid Certificates during the Covid-19 Pandemic. Mark noted that if 1% of this data was incorrect, that would affect roughly 100,000 individuals. This shows the importance in ensuring we have the

right data for the right person.

Theresa Barry also spoke about the importance of change across the organisation by moving away from being paper based and the use of an Electronic Healthcare Record (EHR). Standardising data at a European level is also key with plans for legislation around the sharing of data for patient summaries and e-prescribing.

Key consideration was given to collecting data in the correct format, becoming data literate and understanding and encouraging the use of data to improve decision-making. The overall conclusion was better data can only improve experience for both staff and service users.

The call was clear from all speakers and that was to support HSE data colleagues to build a data programme to support and enable HSE staff to collect, use and manage data within HSE systems.

Main photograph above from left to right: Theresa Barry, Loretto Grogan, Mark Bagnell, Michael Redmond, Maria McCann.



LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES

At the last Lunch and Learn Keith Morrissey presented 'NIMIS - The Big Bang' on 3rd March 2023.

A number of questions from attendees were not answered during the presentation. Below are the questions and answers:

What are the plans for NIMIS to use SNOMED and standard terminology to allow for interoperability?

This is under active consideration for our future roadmap. We already utilise HL7 and DICOM standards within the system.

Very impressive achievements. Looking at the sheer scale of the project, was a Rollback plan feasible?

We had a rollback plan that we spent

a significant amount of time and effort creating and refining with the vendor. Thankfully this didn't have to be utilised but we realised the importance of having a detailed plan available during these types of upgrades.

Great presentation thank you all. Have you integrated with any other national systems or have you plans to?

We have already integrated with National iPMS on all of their sites. We have also had meaningful discussions with a number of the other national systems regarding future integrations.

If you would like to contact the Lunch & Learn team to discuss topics please email them on:

LunchandLearn.ehealth@hse.ie

Contact us at communications.ehealth@hse.ie for any news items you would like us to feature in our monthly newsletter.

SNOMED Vendor Specifications Document for HSE Procurement of new systems

By Theresa Barry

Clinical Terminology Architecture Lead

The Irish National Release Centre for SNOMED has produced a vendor specification document to support the procurement of new systems with a clinical terminology component. This specification document has been peer reviewed and approved by the SNOMED Governance Board.

This document should be shared with all prospective suppliers during the procurement process and doing so will ensure that data quality and data standardisation is managed and architected within the system from the beginning. This will ultimately aid in interoperability and data sharing. With the Health Information Bill from the

Department of Health being drafted and the legislation from the EU Health dataspace being planned, it would be prudent that the HSE is in a state of readiness and be prepared to enable data sharing, and overall improve data quality.

This document is hosted on ehealthireland.ie and you can read the [Vendor Specification Document here](#).

For further information contact:

Theresa Barry, Clinical Terminology Architecture Lead.

Theresa.Barry@hse.ie

LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES

The latest list of lunch and learn sessions are listed below.

All sessions take place on Fridays at 12.30 unless otherwise stated. These sessions have been hugely beneficial for us to learn about the work going on in teams across eHealth.

Coming up soon:

24th March 2023

iNews with Niamh O'Leary and Noel Carberry

21st April 2023

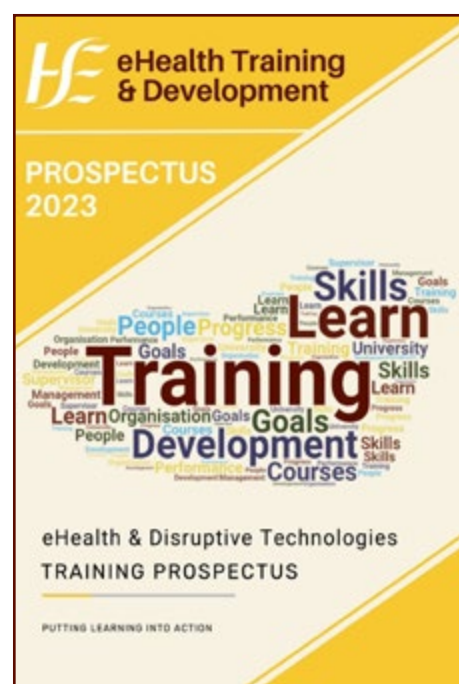
CHI Update with Deirdre O'Connor and John Gilmartin

5th May 2023

IIS with Niamh Crossan

If you missed some of the previous sessions, most of them are available on the Discovery Zone on HSeLanD.

[View this handy guide on how to find the Discovery Zone on HSeLanD](#)



Chief Technology Office (CTO)

Staff Day held in the Aisling Hotel, Dublin.

By Helen Coughlan
Chief Technology Officer

The Chief Technology Office (CTO), recently hosted its All-Staff Away Day in the Ashling Hotel, Dublin. Thankfully post Covid, this is becoming an annual event and provides the opportunity for CTO staff to network, meet with Technology Office Senior Management and discuss strategy and ways of working.

The event was hosted by Chief Technology Officer, Helen Coughlan, and co-hosted by the CTO's Senior Management Team, Tadhg Buckley, James Carroll, Pat Thornton, Ursula O'Sullivan and Deirdre O'Regan. Given the geographic spread of the Technology Office team, which makes it difficult for some people to attend, it was great to see the 79 staff who did make it on the day.



Photograph above from L-R: James Carroll, General Manager, Head of Technology & Deployment; John Ward, Chief Technology Transformation Officer HSE; Puneet Kukreja, Chief Information Security Officer HSE;

Helen Coughlan, Chief Technology Officer, opened the event with a review of the area, articulating where Tech Office sits in the eHealth structure and taking a look back on our strategic objectives and also a forward look at where we go next. She noted the significant progress in terms of recruitment with very positive results for internal promotions, a testimony to the quality of staff on the team and something she is particularly proud of. It was also pleasing to note the progress the team have made against the strategy developed in 2018, with some key deliverables complete. These successes are even more impressive considering the previous 3 years hit by Covid and Cyber.

We were lucky to have an executive panel discussion, moderated by James Carroll, comprising of Fran Thompson, Chief Information Officer, Puneet Kukreja,



Photograph above from L-R: Helen Coughlan Chief Technology Officer; John Ward, Chief Technology Transformation Officer; Puneet Kukreja, Chief Information Security Officer; James Carroll, General Manager, Head of Technology and Deployment.

Chief Information Security Officer and John Ward, Chief Technology Transformation Officer. Attendees had an opportunity to raise questions to the panel to understand the new roles and get their views on the HSE and future strategy/operations. The team were impressed with the open engagement from the panel and the willingness to listen and share their views.

This was followed by an Open Forum discussion, lead out by Tadhg Buckley, looking at "key organisational challenges and gaps". Again, this was a topic which is very close to the hearts of the technology office teams and pertinent as the RHA's are being created. The value of the opportunity for these distributed teams to share common experiences and explore differences is immeasurable.

The outputs of these discussions will feed into our strategic planning and will result in



Photograph above L-R: Karen McMahon, Amanda Walsh and Melissa Cotter.

further engagements throughout the year. The event was a great success, with the opportunity for staff to engage with their teams and management. It was no surprise to anyone that the result was some very lively debate, it wouldn't be Technology Office if that wasn't the case. Most importantly people got to meet up, have some fun and the feedback from the day was very positive.



Fran Thompson, CIO speaking at the event.



The [Catalyst International Film Festival](#) will host the 4th edition of the festival from Limerick on 30th March to 1st April, presenting a film programme that celebrates diverse stories and storytellers currently under-represented on screen and behind the camera.



Our Place in Space North Down

Our Place in Space is an epic scale model sculpture trail of the solar system, which is enhanced along the way by an interactive AR app. Starting at Ulster Transport Museum, visitors will explore from the Sun to Pluto in a 10km trail along the beautiful North Down Coastal Path. You don't need a ticket to explore the trail and you can visit all the planets in one trip or several.

[See here for further information](#)

Wander Wild Festival Killarney

The [Wander Wild Festival](#) is an annual Mountain and Outdoor festival with a programme of exceptional outdoor and cultural experiences, films, speakers, social events, and a sustainable local food trail. This year's festival takes place in Killarney from **Friday 24th to Sunday 26th March**. The 'Great Outdoors' festival has a packed schedule of events for all ages and abilities, from yoga and meditation to rock climbing and abseiling.



Kilkenny Tradfest Kilkenny City

[Kilkenny Tradfest](#) celebrates live music, ceol agus craic! Featuring some of Ireland's top traditional and folk musicians in the medieval city of Kilkenny from **15th to 19th March**. Visitors can enjoy over 100 gigs in a mix of ticketed and free events this St Patrick's weekend, with performances from Stockton's Wing and Lisa Hannigan to name a few.

Irish Famine Exhibition

Learn the story of the [Irish Potato Famine](#) / Great Hunger. Open from 12:00 to 18:00 each day, the exhibition includes a documentary film, storyboards and original Famine artefacts.

This exhibition runs from **March 15th to September 30th 2023**, and is located in Stephens Green Shopping Centre Dublin City.

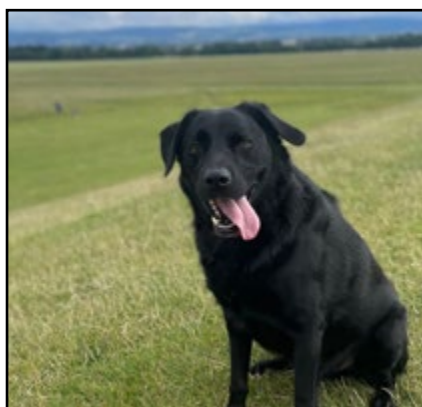




PETS

This is Loki and he is a four-year-old Labrador and he lives with Niamh Mulroney.

He is originally from Wexford but loves life in the city. He loves hurling, sleeping and playing with his friend Joey.



If you would like to submit a photo and a little piece about your pet, please send to:

communications.eHealth@hse.ie



Tech Excellence Awards 2023

The Tech Excellence Awards represent the most prestigious achievements, recognising the skills, innovation and determination of the technology business and its people.

Check out the [categories](#) and enter.

Deadline for entries is 7th April 2023

If you are entering any of your projects/ teams please notify us at:

communications.ehealth@hse.ie

eHealth & Disruptive Technologies

To find out about any positions that have been advertised for eHealth, please go to our [eHealth Careers Page on ehealthireland.ie](https://ehealthireland.ie).

You can contact the HR Team on ehealth.recruitment@hse.ie



eHealth Induction

Richmond Education Centre, Dublin.



eHealth induction was held on 14th February in the Richmond Education and Event Centre.

Fran Thompson, Chief Information Officer opened the event and gave an overview of eHealth and it's standing within the HSE to the 43 participants.

Joyce Shaw, Chief of Staff also welcomed

and addressed the group. The day was facilitated by Allyson Donnelly, Employee Relations and Thelma Pentony, Training & Development.

86% of participants rated the day as excellent while 14% rated the day as very good.

Participant feedback included "Great

programme and excellent information for new beginners"; "Really enjoyed the interactive part of the presentations"; "Great overview of eHealth structures"; "All the parts covered in the training was on point".

The next induction day is scheduled for early July.



Fran Thompson, CIO.



eHealth

New Recruits

Introducing our new colleagues to the eHealth community.

Jennifer O'Neill
Employee Relations

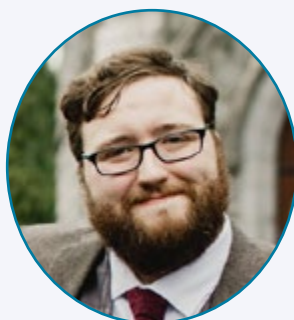


What is the top destination on your must visit list?
Africa

What has surprised you about your job so far?
The variation involved in employee relations.

If you could have dinner with anyone, dead or alive who would it be and why?
Gordon Ramsey. That is if he is the person who is cooking dinner as I love eating good food and I consider myself a massive foodie.

Damien Kirby
ICT Support Officer IIS

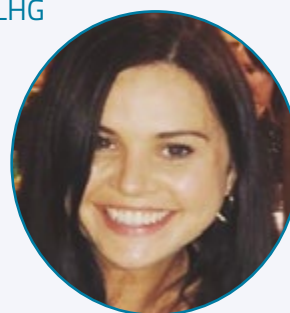


What is the top destination on your must visit list?
Sleepover at the Natural History Museum in London.

What has surprised you about your job so far?
How many young people are on the team (I'm used to being the youngest person in the office by about 20 years).

If you could have dinner with anyone, dead or alive who would it be and why?
Douglas Adams.

Kama Stokes
ICT Engagement Lead for ULHG

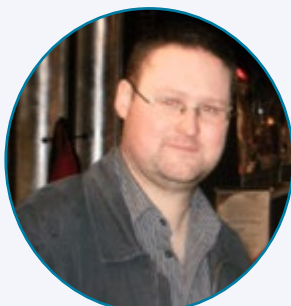


What is the top destination on your must visit list?
Italy.

What has surprised you about your job so far?
How welcoming all of the team members are and their passion to progress digital health in Ireland.

If you could have dinner with anyone, dead or alive who would it be and why?
Michelle Obama, an inspirational leader and is an advocate for education and a healthy lifestyle.

Keith Flanagan
Software Developer AZi-HiDs



What is the top destination on your must visit list?
Microsoft's Headquarters, Seattle and Silicon Valley, San Francisco.

What has surprised you about your job so far?
The vast size of the Healthlink codebase and its layers of services and interfaces, very daunting at first and very impressive at the same time.

If you could have dinner with anyone, dead or alive who would it be and why?
Bill Gates, I would love to discuss the original Basic and VB, the innovation and emergence of .Net and its evolution, and lastly the future for Microsoft with .NET CORE or alternative MS technologies.