Important and exciting changes are underway for all of us working in children’s healthcare in Ireland

A clinical network of paediatric services is being planned with a new, purpose-built children’s hospital at its centre. The three existing Dublin children’s hospitals (Our Lady’s Children’s Hospital, Crumlin; Temple Street Children’s University Hospital; and the National Children’s Hospital at Tallaght) will transition to a new single organisation, and then move into one world-class new children’s hospital and satellite centres.

Your help is needed to create a new name for our newly integrated children’s health service – including the new organisation, the new children’s hospital and its satellite centres and paediatric services in the regional hospitals.

A number of Naming Roadshows are planned for May across the Regional Hospitals with paediatric units ( Cork, Galway & Limerick) and the three Dublin children’s hospitals inviting suggestions on our new name from staff, Parents and the Youth Advisory Council will be involved in the validation stage of this naming process and we hope to have our new name by July.

We are looking for as many suggestions as possible – all ideas are good ideas!

This is an opportunity for all staff to get involved in creating a new name we can all be proud of!

Please take a look for further information and suggestion forms in May.

If you would like more information on the integration groups please contact us via our website www.newchildrenshospital.ie/ask-your-voice/

Over 1000s hours of design Engagement

During the design stage of the new children’s hospital and the OPD Urgent Care Centres there were over 1000 hours of engagement and consultation with the staff from the existing three children’s hospitals, families of young people and children who are current and former users of the service who are members of the Youth Advisory Council. This extensive consultation has led to the development of a world class building and we will continue to engage to ensure we deliver the best possible clinical care for children and young people.

Please find below detail of the Integration Executive Committee structure for the OPD and Urgent Care Centres which will give you an insight in the types of engagement work streams and the people working on your behalf.

A project update from the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board

At the start of August 2015 the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board (NPHDB) submitted a Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála for a new children’s Hospital, new OPD and Urgent Care Centres in Tallaght & Blanchardstown. A 250 bed family accommodation unit, a children’s research and innovation facility and a Transportation Corridor on Drogheda road in Dublin 12. This is an extensive planning application for 6 buildings covering 4 areas which span across 3 county councils. An Oral Hearing took place in December 2015 which took 10 days to complete and a decision on the planning application was expected in February 2016.

In early February 2016 An Bord Pleanála confirmed the NPHDB that due to the number and complexity of issues in the application, it will not be in a position to make its decision by May 12th. Notwithstanding the extension on time for a decision from An Bord Pleanála, the programme of appropriate preplanning work by the NPHDB and the Children’s Hospital Group on safety and the design work involving the staff of the existing three children’s hospitals continues.

Tenders for the enabling construction works were invited in March and we expect to appoint a Contractor in July to start working immediately. Subject to planning we are on track to have a fully-operating world-class children’s hospital in 2020. The new children’s hospital on a shared campus with St James’s Hospital will bring the three existing children’s hospital under one roof for the first time, in a modern building that is custom-built to deliver the best care and treatments.

This is the single greatest investment project ever undertaken in Ireland in a single part of Ireland’s implementation of the new National Model of Care for Paediatric services.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and input into the design process and we look forward to continuing our work with you on this momentous project.

John Pollock
PROJECT DIRECTOR
Alder Hey Visit

In January 2016, a site visit to the recently opened Alder Hey Children’s Hospital in Liverpool took place.

The main purpose of this bench-mark site visit was to review the facilities for Cardiology and Cardiac Thoracic Surgery and compare them with the plans for the new. Cardiologists Dr Damien Kenny and Terry Prenderville from OLCHC met with their colleagues in Liverpool and reviewed the facilities and discussed how cardiac services are delivered in Alder Hey Children’s Hospital and across 13 satellites. Dr Sean Walsh, Dr Emma Curtis, Ms Sharon Hayden, Mr Jason Towers and Ms Deirdre Coakley, who were also on this site visit took the opportunity to meet with Dr Mary Ryan in the Emergency Department and to hear first-hand the lessons learnt when they opened the department in October 2015.

Presently children receive their meals at set times during the day. The catering plan for the new children’s hospital will be the introduction of a room style catering model. Similar to other new hospitals, internationally food at the new children’s hospital will be prepared on-site in a centralised kitchen and will be brought to the Ward Nutrition Stations by Automated Guided Vehicles (AGVs).

The foodservice staff delivers trays directly to the child in their room or they can choose to eat with their parents and other children in the dining room. This will transform how and when children will receive meals with introduction of greater food choice options and a more flexible approach to when meals are eaten.

The new children’s hospital will provide Breakfast, Lunch and Tea, together with snacks and soft beverages. The main meals are served between 8:00 am–7:00 pm.

Hospital menus are devised in conjunction with the Clinical Nutrition Department to ensure meals cater for dietary requirements, provide suitable and varied dishes and the ward team will always be on hand to help with the ordering and service of meals.

What is room style service?

Children who are inpatients will receive a restaurant style menu and can place orders for menu choices electronically. This system will be through an integrated bedside table (IBT). The IBT will enable children to view on screen a variety of food options per meal choice with the addition of visual supports. Meal orders can be placed individually or as a daily plan for all three meals.

Catering Questions that were raised at the Family Forum workshops were:

- Can there be a restaurant and cafe on the same level as rooms so that parents can have their child?
  - Yes, within the hospital there will be drinking water in every in-patient area, parents restrooms and parent accommodation.

- Need access to healthy food 24/7?
  - Yes, within the hospital there will be drinking water in every in-patient area, parents restrooms and parent accommodation.

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- Easy access to water and other refreshments?
  - Yes, within the hospital there will be drinking water in every in-patient area, parents restrooms and parent accommodation.

- Vending machines with appropriate range and choice?
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