

Report on	Community Development – All Ireland Health Campaign
Date of Meeting	10 th December 2020
Reporting Officer	Claire Linney, Head of Community Development
Contact Officers	Martina Totten Community Planning Coordinator

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	All Ireland Health Campaign – to agree to support the campaign
2.0	Background
2.1	At the special meeting of Development Committee on the 29 th October, it was recommended that Council agree, in principle, to support the campaign for an All-Ireland National Healthcare Service. The matter was to be brought to the next Development Committee meeting for decision, once members had an opportunity to read the report.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>At the special Development Committee of 29th October, Mr Conor Redding of the All Ireland Health Campaign gave a presentation to members. A copy of the presentation providing information on the campaign is attached at Appendix 1.</p> <p>Summary responses from Mr Redding as taken from the meeting minute were:</p> <p>Reference made to the Covid19 crisis and stated that the early stages of the pandemic saw hospitals across the island on verge of being overwhelmed and this was not just the result of an exceptional set of circumstances. Covid-19 was the perfect storm that highlighted long running deficiencies in healthcare systems with the HSE and NHS now operating in state of “permanent crisis” – shortages of beds, longer waiting times and understaffing.</p> <p>Funding for such a health care system would be shared between governments, with the majority being HSE due to population. The Bengoa report and the Slaintecare report were important documents that require consideration in moving forward and it is hoped such a new system would allow these to happen.</p> <p>He noted that it was a new campaign and therefore the response from governments and key agencies had not been fully sought; however the communications campaign</p>

	<p>currently taking place was to allow for this. It was noted that there are 2 political parties and a couple of councils that have endorsed to date.</p> <p>He stated that the main principle is to move towards a system of quality healthcare that is available to all and localised; the aims would impact on the HSE 2 tier system and some of the private health provision developing within NHS and some of the specialist development which is reducing localised healthcare delivery.</p> <p>Issues raised by members:</p> <p>Issues were raised regarding the importance of the implementation of the recommendations of the Bengoa Report to address health care issues in the NHS, and seeking to ensure any future system would preserve the ethos of health care available to all, based on quality provision.</p> <p>The issue of privatisation growing in both the NHS and HSE managed health regions and how this was leaving many people vulnerable; and the importance of a health care system which is free at the point of delivery was referenced.</p> <p>How an All Island healthcare system that is reformed to build on the good practice of both health jurisdictions would be beneficial in reducing waiting lists and investing in areas such as social care which were under extreme pressure and this became more apparent due to Covid 19.</p> <p>Reference was made to joint working currently and even sharing of ICU provision during Covid19 in response to demand, and given the size of the population of both health jurisdictions, a one All Island health system would seem practical and viable. Also the joint regional centres of excellence that are shared currently e.g. cardiology and that there is room for more specialised shared health.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u> None</p> <p><u>Professional Support</u> None</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> None</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u> None</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	All Ireland Health Campaign – to consider the request to agree to support the campaign.

6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	All Ireland Health Campaign presentation

