

National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) COVID-19 Subgroup – Workforce

06/03/2020

Terms of Reference

Scope: Ensuring that the Health Sector Workforce is supported to meet the increase in demand associated with the response to COVID-19 is a key priority. This subgroup will focus on HR and strategic workforce issues arising and provide assurance to the NPHE in this regard. In particular, measures to protect staff and ensure continuity of service will be reviewed, taking account of emerging clinical and international evidence and advice.

Programme of Work:

1. Ensure arrangements are put in place by employers to protect staff and to ensure staff safety at work.
2. Identify actions and develop guidelines to remove roadblocks to efficient deployment of personnel resources.
3. Agree measures are in place to provide the necessary flexibility to address urgent staffing requirements.
4. Consider where appropriate other arrangements to maximise the pool of workers available to the health sector.
5. Consider workforce related output from other subgroups of the NPHE.

Membership: The National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) COVID-19 Subgroup – Workforce is made up of representatives from the Department of Health (DOH), Health Service Executive (HSE) and Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER).