



# **HSCPA**

*Health and Social Care Professional Alliance*

Radiology Dept  
Connolly Hospital  
D15X40D

Mr Robert Watt  
Secretary General  
Dept of Health  
Block 1  
Miesian Plaza  
50-58 Lower Baggot Street  
Dublin  
D02 XW14

**Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 2022**

Dear Mr Watt,

**RE: CHIEF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE PROFESSIONAL OFFICER**

I refer to previous correspondence on behalf of the Health and Social Care Professions Alliance (HSCPA), which as you know consists of representatives of all the regulated or about to be regulated CORU health and social care professionals encompassing therapies, diagnostics, social work and social care and laboratory medicine scientists. The alliance represents professionals that provide 25% of clinical care to patients in Ireland.

The HSCPA have been engaging with the Department of Health for a number of years to establish a Health and Social Care Advisory Unit to provide the Minister and Department with the expert advice and support that it requires at this time of tremendous planned change in Irish Public Health Services including the implementation of Sláintecare.

We were delighted to hear at the recent Oireachtas Health Committee that that you are fully committed to recruiting this position. We were also pleased to hear further confirmation in the reply to the PQ on Oct 20<sup>th</sup> by Minister Donnelly that the job description is in hand and a suitable person will be appointed Q1 2023.

The HSCPA believe such an appointment is vital for the strategic planning of Health and Social Care within Ireland and to ensure that we can collaborate as equals with other relevant Government departments. We are of the view that this unit must be led by an independent Chief Health and Social Care Officer and should operate alongside our Chief Medical and Nursing Officer colleagues within the Department of Health. We are positive that this will provide the necessary expertise and coordination to ensure a more collective and cohesive approach for Health and Social Care and will optimise the contribution of all Health and Social care professionals in Ireland.

Thank you for your support and we are happy to provide any assistance or input that you may require.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



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Michele Monahan

**Chairperson, Health and Social Care Professionals Alliance (HSCPA)**

**Cc:** Mr Stephen Donnelly TD, Minister for Health

**Vincent McDarby, President PSI**



**Patricia Regan, Chairperson AOTI**



**Clare Meskill, Chair IASLT**



**Leon Ledwidge, Chair SCI**



**Jennifer Feighan, CEO, INDI**



**Vivian Geiran, Chair IASW**



**Meave Keaveney, Chair SCPI**



**Gay Peart-Murphy, President ISCP**



**Jenny Grehan, President IIRRT**



**Jaina Byrne Chair IAO**



**Lisa Molloy, CEO IACP**



**Eileen O Flaherty, President**



**IICMS**

Irish Institute of Clinical Measurement Science

**Pat Dunphy, President AOI**



*Mai O Connor*

Mai O Connor, Chairperson IPTA



Maureen Keane, Chairperson Phlebotomists Association Ireland



*Graham Lee*

Graham Lee, Past President ACBI



ASSOCIATION OF  
CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTS  
IN IRELAND