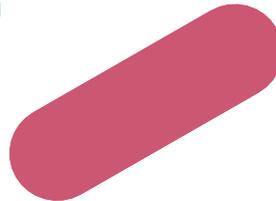




PPI IGNITE
NETWORK

IMPACT CASE STUDY



North Limerick City Engagement Project

Who was involved?

- 1 PPI Ignite Network lead site
- 1 PPI Ignite Network Local Partner
- 12 Community and Primary Care Services
- 2 Community Support Workers
- 4 Academic Researchers

Summary

In partnership with HSE Patient and Service User Engagement (Mid West) and HSE Network 8 – North Limerick City, we undertook a partnership and consultation process to embed patient engagement into the evolving structures and services of CHN 8 – North Limerick City.

The project produced a published report. The resulting poster, presented at the 2024 HSE Patient and Public Partnership Conference, was awarded the prize for best research by HSE CEO Bernard Gloster.

The project and report drew attention from senior HSE leadership, including an immediate commitment to fund an additional Primary Care Liaison Officer for North Limerick City. It further led to a financial

commitment from HSE Patient and Service User Engagement (PSUE) to professionalise its 6 regional PSUE managers through Participatory Health Research Professional Diploma at the University of Limerick.

Our work

The PPI Ignite Network team at University of Limerick invited a diversity of patients, service users and community voices to inform evolving health services. The HSE Community Healthcare Manager in CHN 8 collaborated with the PSUE Officer for the Mid West to conduct initial consultation meetings with the diverse stakeholders living and working in North Limerick City.

To ensure the consultation data collected could be independently thematically analysed and then meaningfully shared with stakeholders in Limerick City North, the PPI Ignite Network team in the Participatory Health Research Unit, University of Limerick, were invited to collaborate and co-fund a participatory research process with HSE Primary Care CHN 8.

This consultation project included participation from 12 North Limerick City community organisations, including local charities, health



and social care services, An Garda Síochána, schools and local council authorities.

This led to recommendations and a [report](#) presented at the HSE 2nd Annual Patient and Public Partnership Conference, coming to the direct attention of HSE CEO Bernard Gloster.

We subsequently entered into discussions with the HSE national leadership to provide professional training for the regional leads via our Professional Diploma in Participatory Health Research.

Our impact

Bringing Network output to the attention of HSE senior leadership

The project report was presented at the HSE 2nd Annual Patient and Public Partnership Conference and was awarded first prize among all national and regional health services projects. This award was presented directly by HSE CEO Bernard Gloster.

This brought the primary care needs of Limerick City North to the direct attention of the HSE senior leadership.

HSE commit to implement report recommendations

Discussions between HSE senior leadership and the project team on the same day of the conference led to an immediate commitment from the HSE to fund an additional liaison officer post in North Limerick City to support patient engagement in primary care services.

Commitment to professionalise the HSE approach to Patient Engagement

In early 2025, we entered into discussions with the HSE national leadership to provide professional training for the regional leads via our Professional Diploma in Participatory Health Research. The HSE committed to fund the 6 regional PSUE leads to enrol in the Professional Diploma for the 2025 year, with a further commitment to train additional staff in subsequent years as needed.

Potential future impact

The development of a cohort of HSE staff with a high degree of professional competency in participatory research practice will enhance the quality and impact of public and patient involvement in evidence creation (research) within the HSE.

Working with the HSE to build this core competency will contribute to a deeper understanding of PPI across the HSE, beyond health service provision and into evidence creation.

The anticipated long-term impact will be to enhance the ability of the HSE to provide better, evidence-based services.



Participants reflecting on their top 5 priority recommendations for the HSE to work on with community stakeholders in North Limerick City/HSE CHN 8



Service leaders voting on consensus priorities to include in the report

This work is funded by the Health Research Board and Taighde Eireann – Research Ireland, with co-funding from the seven universities at the centre of the PPI Ignite Network