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|  **Terms of Reference** **National Traveller Health Implementation Group**VS February 2024 |
| Terms of Reference  |
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| Michelle Kearns |   |   |

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**Background**

The National Traveller Health Action Plan 2022-2027 is a long awaited and ambitious plan that sets out to address significant health inequities experienced by Travellers. The Plan states:

*‘The vision is for a health service in which Travellers can achieve*

*their full potential in respect of their physical, mental and social*

*wellbeing and where the wellbeing of all Travellers is valued and*

*supported at every level. The vision is underpinned by one in which*

*Traveller families have equitable outcomes in health resulting in a*

*healthy and resilient Traveller community.”*

The Plan sets out to develop a strengthened partnership between the HSE, Traveller organisations and all relevant agencies. It looks to establish clear performance accountability, including activity and outcomes and resource management, in the delivery of NTHAP enabling a thriving and sustainable Traveller health infrastructure while empowering the community to shape and inform the response to their health, giving rise to equitable health outcomes for Travellers.

The National Traveller Health Acton Plan 2022-2027 was launched in November 2022. This group has been established in line with action 1 of NTHAP.

 ‘*Establishment of an NTHAP implementation group to monitor the delivery of the actions in the Plan and develop performance monitoring frameworks in line with existing HSE systems.’*

**Group values and Principles**

**Values**

Community development is a holistic approach and is grounded in the following principles:

* Social justice and solidarity
* Human rights, equality and anti-discrimination
* Active participation, empowerment and collective action
* Social inclusion
* Sustainable development
* Public Service

**Principles**

* Respect
* Intercultural approach
* Mainstreaming and Targeting
* Evidence based planning
* Collaboration
* Harmonisation
* Implementation
* Intersectoral collaboration

Traveller Inclusion. The group will operate in line with the 10 common principles of Traveller and Roma Inclusion.[[1]](#footnote-1)

**Purpose of the group**

The purpose of the National Traveller Health Implementation Group is to drive implementation of the National Traveller Health Action Plan 2022-2027, to direct, support and engage those involved in implementation, to monitor and report progress against expected outcomes to ensure delivery of the Plan and inform the design of Regional Health Areas in relation to Traveller Health.

**Aim**

The aim of the group is to ensure sustained implementation of NTHAP actions in line with projected outcomes.

**Objectives**

Oversee delivery of NTHAP

* To lead, monitor and report on the implementation on NTHAP including overseeing prioritisation and mobilisation of existing and new resources to support local, regional and national delivery.
* To identify and set annual priorities for implementation of the Plan and communicate to local /regional implementation groups.
* To convene sub-groups as required to drive NTHAP areas of work
* To collate all regional implementation plans and to develop a national implementation plan for NTHAP.
* To address any high-level operational and cross-sectional challenges arising in the implementation of the Plan.

Resourcing:

* To give direction and advise on available resources, budgets and staffing, for NTHAP
* To explore nationally consistent resourcing models for Traveller Health with a view to developing a clearer, transparent and accountable resourcing process.
* To drive NTHAP national resourcing actions.

Monitoring and evaluation:

* To review national and local progress on implementation.
* To oversee the annual reports for NTHAP using the developed monitoring and reporting templates.
* To develop an outcome measurement framework to enable comprehensive evaluation.
* To organise an independent mid-term review of the implementation of NTHAP mid-way through the life of the Plan.

Communications:

* To establish a communications framework for regular engagement with all stakeholders to ensure all stakeholders are kept abreast of progress and developments related to implementation of the Plan.
* To report on progress to the National Community Operations Management Team

HSE Annual National Service Plan

* To inform the HSE Annual National Service Planning Cycle
* To work in accordance with the HSE National Service Plan.

**Membership of the group**

The group will include representation from those bodies responsible for implementation (mainstream actions) of the plan as well as Traveller representation (from the Traveller health infrastructure) and representation from any experts identified by the group to assist implementation. For example, support from an equality expert to assist with rolling out the EI and the compliance with PSD within the HSE. Research program so that there can be evidence based planning for the implementation and monitoring of NTHAP

Group members

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| Chief Officer CHO 6 on behalf of the HSE National Community Operations |
| National Primary Care  |
| HSE NSIO |
| HSE THAF, (4 representatives)* Chair of THAF
* 3 THU representatives (2 Traveller org reps)
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| National Traveller Health Network - 2 representatives  |
| Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre  |
| Public Health  |
| Strategy and Research- National Health & Wellbeing  |
| HSE National Mental Health  |
| HSE National Finance |
| HSE Hospitals - 1 representative |
| Department of Health |
| HSE ICT Rep |

Traveller representatives

The National Traveller Health structures are invited to nominate Traveller representatives to the group.

**Chairperson**

The group is chaired by Aishling Heffernan, Chief Officer of CHO East.

Substitute Representatives

Arrangements for substitute representatives.

Only in the situation where a protracted absence of a representative is expected will consideration be given for nomination of a substitute representative.

**Secretariat**

Secretariat duties include:

* Circulating all group meeting papers including – meeting agenda, meeting minutes and all relevant documentation in advance of meetings to group members.
* Taking minutes of the implementation group meetings.
* Sending correspondence on behalf of the implementation group.
* Ensuring communication mechanism is operating effectively.

**Meetings**

* The meeting will be held in person quarterly and meeting dates for the year will be set at the beginning of the year.
* Notice of the meeting and meeting documents will be issued not later than one week before the meeting.
* Quorum for the meeting will be half of the number of group members plus one.

**Sub- groups**

The National Implementation group will authorise the setting of sub-groups to advance work identified by the National Traveller Health Implementation group. Subgroups will be established to oversee identified priority areas in the Plan.

## **Amendment, modification or variation to the TOR**

This Terms of Reference may be amended, varied or modified in writing after consultation and agreement by National Traveller Health Implementation group members.

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| *These Terms of Reference were approved by the NTHIG on 18/05/2023 and is effective from 18/05/2023. The Terms of Reference will be ongoing until terminated by agreement with parties and will be reviewed periodically.* |

1. The 10 common basic principles of Traveller and Roma inclusion as adopted by the European Commission and the NTRIS. .

1. Constructive, pragmatic and non-discriminatory polices.

2. Explicit but no exclusive targeting

3. Inter-cultural approach

4. Aiming for mainstream

5. Awareness of gender dimension

6. Transfer of gender dimension

7. Use of European Union Instruments

9. Involvement of civil society

10. Active participation of Travellers and Roma [↑](#footnote-ref-1)