

Memorandum of Understanding

between

Health Information and Quality Authority
and
Health and Safety Authority

Date: 14th December 2015

PARTIES:

- (1) **HEALTH INFORMATION AND QUALITY AUTHORITY** established under the Health Act 2007 as amended and having its head office at Unit 1301 City Gate, Mahon, Cork, Ireland ("HIQA"); and
- (2) **HEALTH AND SAFETY AUTHORITY** established under the *Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 1989* and the *Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005* as amended having its head office at The Metropolitan Building, James Joyce Street, Dublin 1, Ireland ("HSA")

INTRODUCTION:

(A) This Memorandum of Understanding is intended to assist and support both the HSA and HIQA in performing their individual functions. In particular it takes note of areas of potential overlap and sectors where both agencies have a remit.

BACKGROUND:

A. Health Information and Quality Authority

The Health Information and Quality Authority is the independent authority established to drive continuous improvement in Ireland's health and social care services. HIQA's mandate extends across the quality and safety of the public, private (within its social care function) and voluntary sectors.

B. The Health and Safety Authority

The Health and Safety Authority is the national agency in Ireland with responsibility for securing health and safety at work. It was established under the *Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 1989* which was replaced by the *Safety Health and Welfare at Work 2005*. The Health and Safety Authority has overall responsibility for the administration and enforcement of health and safety at work in Ireland.



Signature

SIGNED by PHELIM QUINN

Chief Executive Officer for and on behalf of Health Information
and Quality Authority

UNDERSTANDINGS:


It is agreed and acknowledged by HIQA and the HSA that both Parties implement this Memorandum in a spirit of co-operation. Both Parties will consult on the effective operation and any proposed changes to the Memorandum.

1. The effective operation of this MOU will be on the basis of an agreed operational protocol.
2. The aims of this Memorandum are:
 - 2.1. to promote a safe work environment for staff in health and social care services and to promote high quality and safe services for users of the health and social care system
 - 2.2. To facilitate the efficient implementation of safety health and welfare legislation and the Health Act 2007 for people receiving health and social services
 - 2.3. To ensure that regulation is applied in a sensible and proportionate manner for the service provider;
 - 2.4. To avoid duplication of effort by both Parties; and
 - 2.5. To share knowledge, expertise and experience.

ANNUAL REVIEW OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING:

3. A review meeting will be held no less than once annually where the activities in the areas of shared or overlapping responsibility and cooperative measures will be reviewed. In addition the content of the Memorandum will be reviewed to ensure that it remains relevant.

This Memorandum has been entered into on the date stated at the beginning of this Memorandum.



Signature

SIGNED by MARTIN O'HALLORAN

Chief Executive Officer for and on behalf of the Health and
Safety Authority