THE ISLAND’S PUBLIC HEALTH FRAMEWORK
CHAIR AND SPEAKER INFORMATION
MORNING PLENARY
(GREAT HALL)

CHAIR
Dr Elizabeth Mitchell, Chief Executive of the Institute of Public Health in Ireland
From 2007-2013, Elizabeth Mitchell was Deputy Chief Medical Officer/Director of Population Health in the Department of Health Social Services & Public Safety (DHSSPS) in Belfast. She has experience of policy development across a broad range of public health, health and social care services, including quality improvement, and research and development. She trained and worked as a consultant epidemiologist at the Communicable Disease Surveillance Centre in London where her role was providing expert support to investigation of major outbreaks of infectious disease in England and Wales. Dr Mitchell graduated with Second Class Honours from Queen’s University Belfast in 1980. She is a Fellow of the UK Faculty of Public Health, a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (Edinburgh) and a Member of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine, of the Royal College of Physicians Ireland.

Professor Kevin Balanda, Director of Research at the Institute of Public Health in Ireland
Kevin Balanda has over thirty years’ experience in the development and application of health intelligence across the academic, Government and semi-government sectors. Currently, he is the Director of Research at the Institute of Public Health in Ireland (IPH), adjunct Professor of Public Health at UCC and a Fellow of the UK Faculty of Public Health (FFPH). His interests focus on the development and implementation of public health initiatives that address the broader determinants of health and aim to reduce health inequalities.

Kate O’Flaherty, Director of Health and Wellbeing Programme at the Department of Health
The Health and Wellbeing Programme in the Department of Health coordinates the implementation of the Healthy Ireland Framework. Kate graduated from Trinity College Dublin in 1993 with a BSc (Pharm) and subsequently practised for a number of years as a pharmacist. In 2000 she undertook an MA in Journalism in DIT and worked for some time as a journalist and communications consultant, specialising in health. As health feature writer for the Sunday Tribune, Kate was shortlisted for a National Media Award in 2002. In 2007 she joined the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, the pharmacy regulator, as Head of Communications and Public Affairs, and in 2010 undertook an additional role as Head of Pharmacy Practice Development. In July 2013, Kate moved to the Department to head the newly established Health and Wellbeing Programme.
THE ISLAND’S PUBLIC HEALTH FRAMEWORK
CHAIR AND SPEAKER INFORMATION
MORNING PLENARY
(GREAT HALL)

Dr Eddie Rooney, Chief Executive of the Public Health Agency
The Public Health Agency was established in 2009 to protect and improve health and social well-being and reduce health inequalities. Prior to joining the Public Health Agency, Dr Rooney served as Equality Director at the Office for the First Minister and Deputy First Minister and as Deputy Secretary at the Department of Education from 2004-08.

Dr Alison Hill, Public Health Consultant at Better Value Healthcare Ltd
Alison Hill is a public health consultant working for Better Value Healthcare Ltd, a consultancy set up by Sir Muir Gray, undertaking training and development in population and triple-value healthcare. She is an honorary senior lecturer at Oxford University. Until July 2014 she was Public Health England’s Deputy Chief Knowledge Officer. Within this role she had responsibility for strategic leadership and business management within Public Health England’s knowledge directorate and was managerially responsible for 600 staff. She had strategic oversight of a wide range of knowledge products and programmes within the directorate such as local authority health profiles and the NHS Atlas of Healthcare Variation. Previously she was Managing Director of Solutions for Public Health, providing highly specialised public health services to the NHS and local government. Solutions for Public Health played a leading role in national programmes including the South East Public Health Observatory and the National Obesity Observatory. She was director of public health in Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes for 10 years.
MONITORING HEALTH & WELLBEING ACROSS THE POPULATION
CHAIR AND SPEAKER INFORMATION
MORNING PARALLEL SESSION 1
(GREAT HALL)

CHAIR

Malachy Bradley, Assistant Director/Senior Planner at Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly
Malachy Bradley is a qualified town planner with 16 years’ experience in public sector planning in Ireland, during which time he has gained significant experience of local government planning and policy making. In his current position as Assistant Director for the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly, he has the responsibility of strategic planning for the region. This includes preparing the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Region which will be the spatial planning policy document that informs planning policy for the 12 constituent local authorities. Malachy also plays a coordination role with all statutory bodies, including local authorities and national agencies, who are stakeholders in the Region.

Dr Miriam Owens, Public Health Specialist, Health and Wellbeing Programme at Department of Health
Dr Miriam Owens, MB, MPH, MFPHMI, FFPHMI, is a Specialist in Public Health Medicine. She graduated from University College Galway in 1981 and has trained in both general practice and public health medicine.
She works in the Department of Health and played an instrumental role in the development of Healthy Ireland, a Framework for Improved Health and Wellbeing, which aims to improve health and wellbeing by addressing the wider social determinants of health. Working in the Health and Wellbeing Programme which has responsibility for coordinating the implementation of Healthy Ireland, Miriam provides public health medical expertise and is currently working on a number of elements of the Framework relating to research, monitoring and evaluation. She manages an annual population health survey and the development of an outcomes framework which is a tool to provide an objective assessment of the delivery of the goals of Healthy Ireland.

Miriam also has responsibility for a number of cross-sectoral issues and brings the health and wellbeing perspective to various groups tasked with policy development and/or implementation. These include among others the Environmental Protection Agency’s Health Advisory Committee, the Special Action Group on Obesity, the Inter-Departmental Group on Local and Community Development and the Healthy and Positive Ageing Initiative. Miriam is also a member of the Royal College of Physicians Research and Ethics Committee.
MONITORING HEALTH & WELLBEING ACROSS THE POPULATION

CHAIR AND SPEAKER INFORMATION

MORNING PARALLEL SESSION 1
(GREAT HALL)

Stephanie Tallentire, Deputy Principal, Population Health Directorate, Department of Health NI.

Stephanie has been a Deputy Principal in the Population Health Directorate, Department of Health Northern Ireland since 2000. She contributed to the development of NI’s first cross-cutting public health strategy Investing for Health, and more recently the Executive’s updated strategic framework Making Life Better which provides direction for policies and actions to improve health and reduce health inequalities. Her current role supports its promotion and implementation.

Dr Howard Johnson, Clinical Lead of Health Intelligence, Health Service Executive

The Knowledge Management - Incorporating Health Intelligence team supports the Health Services with knowledge and evidence to strengthen decision-making. This evidence-base informs service design and delivery, quality improvement and improved health outcomes. The team also leads on Health Atlas Ireland, using critical health and social data and maps to visualise and assist insight and action.

Dr Jan Rigby, Senior Lecturer/Head of Department of Geography, Maynooth University

Jan Rigby is a health geographer based at Maynooth University. She has research interests in spatial epidemiology and health inequalities, and a particular interest in the use of geographical information systems (GIS) for health research and policy. She has worked as an advisor to the WHO, to Australian Biosecurity Intelligence, and to public health intelligence in New Zealand and in the UK. Dr Rigby’s research interests include health geography, spatial epidemiology, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), and poverty.

Caolan Laverty, Deputy Principal Statistician at Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency (NISRA)

Caolan works within the Department of Health, Social Services & Public Safety (DHSSPS) and his main area of work is health inequalities. NISRA is the principal source of official statistics and social research on Northern Ireland. These statistics and research inform public policy and associated debate in the wider society.
INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR HEALTH & WELLBEING
CHAIR AND SPEAKER INFORMATION
MORNING PARALLEL SESSION 2
(BAROQUE CHAPEL)

CHAIR

Dr Eibhlin Connolly, Deputy Chief Medical Officer at Department of Health
Dr Eibhlín Connolly is a public health physician. She worked in public health posts in the East and Midwest before joining the Department of Health as Deputy Chief Medical Officer in 1998. She has worked on many areas of public health policy in her years in the Department, both nationally and internationally, including health protection and immunisation policy, strategic health service development and patient safety. She was a member of the Commission on Patient Safety which reported in 2008 and has worked in recent years on patient safety policy, including control of healthcare associated infections and antimicrobial resistance and the development of relevant parts of Health Information legislation. She has a particular interest in professional education and training and the regulation of health professionals as essential components of health service development and patient safety.

Dr Brian O’Mahony, Specialist in Health Informatics/General Practitioner
Brian’s area of expertise is interoperability between information systems. He has been involved with Healthlink, the national message broker, in moving structured messages, for example, laboratory and radiology results and eReferrals, between General Practice software management systems and information systems in secondary care. He works as project manager for the National General Practice Information Technology (GPIT) Group and Healthmail, the secure clinical email service. He is a member of the eHealth Ireland Committee. More information at http://www.gpit.ie and http://www.ehealthireland.ie

Siobhán Morgan, HSCNI Business Services Organisation
Siobhán Morgan has worked as a Statistician for the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) for 24 years. She has worked across a range of government departments and agencies, working with administrative and survey data and commissioned research projects. In May 2014 she joined HSCNI Business Services Organisation to manage the research function of Honest Broker Service (HBS). HBS provides streamlined, secure processes for enabling access to health and social care data for the HSC and wider research community. HBS promotes good governance, improved efficiency and enhances the benefits of exploring data in a safe environment for the improvement of public health and well-being. It enables access to anonymised/pseudonymised data from the Regional Data Warehouse to other organisations within the HSC family and to anonymised data from the Regional Data Warehouse for approved HSC related research.

HBS does not share patient identifiable information. All HBS processes are in line with Data Protection and confidentiality requirements, and with the ICO’s Codes of Practice.
Siobhán Morgan, HSCNI Business Services Organisation
The Honest Broker Governance Board is responsible for the research approvals process. It consists of representation from the Data Controllers of the data held within the Regional Data Warehouse, as well as representation from the main users of the data from within the HSC family. HBS provides a safe and secure environment (a research safe haven) where agreed project specific data can be accessed and, in some cases, linked to other data. This includes dedicated research co-ordinators to assist researchers with projects and provide advice and support. To protect patient confidentiality, statistical disclosure control is applied to all outputs before they are provided in an approved format to the researcher.

Dr Dermot O’Reilly, Senior Clinical Lecturer with the Centre for Public Health at Queen’s University Belfast
Dr Dermot O’Reilly is a Senior Clinical Lecturer with the Centre for Public Health at Queen’s University Belfast, with an interest in social epidemiology. He is the Director of the Administrative Data Research Centre (ADRC) in Northern Ireland, one of four such centres recently created to facilitate access to, and linkage of, administrative in the UK. He also helped establish the Census-based Northern Ireland Longitudinal Study (NILS). His current research interests include retirement and ageing.

Professor Anthony Staines, Chair of Health Systems, School of Nursing and Human Sciences, Dublin City University
Anthony was appointed as the first Professor of Health Systems in the School of Nursing and Human Sciences in DCU in August 2007. Prior to this, he spent a decade in UCD in the School of Public Health. He is also the chair of the Irish Blood Transfusion Service, and was a member of the Higher Education Authority, and the Health Insurance Authority. He was seconded in 2013 and 2014 part-time to HSE working on the ICT Strategy for the Irish Health Services, as part of the System Reform Group. He has worked on many aspects of public health, often with a focus on policy relevant research and child health. He has particular skills in study design, epidemiology, and policy analysis. He studies the uses of information in many different settings, including health service funding, health service planning, costs of disease, environmental health policy, and disease epidemiology. He has often used a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods to evaluate projects, and health care services, to develop policy relevant information. Current and recent EU funded projects are BRIDGE-HEALTH, on a European health information system in which he is the Irish lead, RICHE, on child health research policy, of which he is the co-ordinator; TACTICS, a project on childhood injury prevention; RN4CAST, on forecasting the nursing workforce, both in terms of quantity and of skill, and EUROHEIS2, on health and environment information systems, in all three of which he is a partner.
CROSSING BOUNDARIES FOR BETTER HEALTH
CHAIR AND SPEAKER INFORMATION
AFTERNOON PARALLEL SESSION 3
(GREAT HALL)

CHAIR
Kate Moloney, Healthy Waterford Coordinator at Waterford City & County Council
Kate was appointed as Healthy Waterford Coordinator in 2013. Waterford has been a member of World Health Organisation (WHO) European Network of Healthy Cities since 2010, one of only three cities in Ireland. She has overall responsibility for developing and delivering programmes on behalf of the Healthy Waterford Steering Committee in line with the objectives set out by PHASE VI (2014-2018) of the WHO European Network of Healthy Cities. Current priorities include health literacy, mental health and community resilience.
Kate is a qualified town planner and experienced researcher with interests in healthy urban development, community-led planning, public participation, community engagement, renewable energy, housing and social policy. She holds a BA in Public & Social Policy, MA in International Studies and MSc in International Planning. Kate is also a member of the National Healthy Cities and Counties of Ireland Network Steering Committee.

Tom Healy, Director of the Nevin Economic Research Institute (NERI)
Tom has previously worked in the Economic and Social Research Institute, the Northern Ireland Economic Research Centre, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the National Economic and Social Forum and the Department of Education and Skills. He holds a PhD (economics and sociology) from UCD. His research interests have included the impact of education and social capital on well-being.

Dr Marie Casey, Specialist in Public Health Medicine at Department of Public Health, HSE
Dr Marie Casey is a Specialist in Public Health Medicine in the Mid-West Department of Public Health and a Clinical Senior Lecturer with University College Cork. Marie graduated from UCC in 2004 and worked clinically in Ireland, Australia and the UK where she did Higher Specialist Training in Public Health in the Wessex training scheme. During this time she completed an MSc in Evidence Based Healthcare and Health Technology Assessment from University of Birmingham and a Masters in Public Health from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.
During her specialist training she worked in a variety of settings including Hampshire Primary Care Trust, Southampton city council, Hampshire and IoW health Protection Unit, University of Southampton and completed an Improving Global Health through Leadership Development fellowship in Cambodia. Since qualification she has worked as SPHM in Limerick and leads work on locality health profiles and is involved in national groups on HTA of medical devices, as well as contributing to the newly established Clinical Research Unit in Limerick.
CROSSING BOUNDARIES FOR BETTER HEALTH

CHAIR AND SPEAKER INFORMATION

AFTERNOON PARALLEL SESSION 3

(GREAT HALL)

Dr Helen McAvoy, Director of Policy at the Institute of Public Health in Ireland

Helen is part of IPH policy team which supports the development of evidence-informed policy to enhance public health and address health inequalities on the island of Ireland. The team contributes to many aspects of policy development through evidence review and processes of consultation, consensus building, review and evaluation. The team has contributed to the design and analysis of consultations on national policies and legislation relevant to tobacco control, obesity, rare diseases and maternity services. Prior to joining IPH, Helen worked as Healthy Ageing Programme Advisor with the National Council on Ageing and Older People.

Trutz Haase, Social and Economic Consultant

Trutz Haase has been an independent Social & Economic Consultant since 1995, having worked previously for the Northern Ireland Economic Research Centre (Belfast), the Combat Poverty Agency (Dublin) and the Educational Research Centre (Dublin). He has been responsible for the design and implementation of monitoring and evaluation frameworks for government programmes aimed at alleviating poverty, as well as developing resource allocation models to target social expenditure on the basis of objective need. In this capacity, he has worked for a number of Irish Government Departments, Local Authorities and NGOs. He is best known for his work on the development of an Irish Index of Relative Affluence and Deprivation, which features in the National Spatial Strategy and the current Regional and Local Development Plans. He has also worked outside the Republic of Ireland, carrying out studies for the Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency (NISRA), Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB), International Fund for Ireland (IFI), OECD and the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA).

Dr Jonathan Pratschke, Research Fellow at the University of Salerno (Italy)

Jonathan Pratschke is a Research Fellow at the University of Salerno (Italy), where he lectures on Economic Sociology and research methods. Alongside his academic role, Dr. Pratschke has worked as a research consultant for several Irish and Italian Government Departments and Agencies, including the CSO, the Irish Hospice Foundation and the HSE in Ireland. He has particular expertise in research design and the translation of targeted research questions into statistical models, focusing on issues related to mediation, causal inference and longitudinal analysis. He has participated in national and international research projects on various topics, including health inequalities, social stratification, social inclusion and the labour market and has published more than 50 articles and research reports related to these themes.
KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION FORMULATING POLICY & PRACTICE
CHAIR AND SPEAKER INFORMATION
AFTERNOON PARALLEL SESSION 4
(BAROQUE CHAPEL)

CHAIR

Professor Elizabeth Keane, Dean of Faculty of Public Health Medicine at the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland
Prof Elizabeth Keane is a member of Council and the Dean of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine. Prof Keane is a graduate of University College Cork. She was Director of Public Health in HSE South (Cork and Kerry) from 1995 until 2014. She has lectured in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health in University College Cork since 1990 and was appointed Adjunct Professor in 2012. As Dean, she is responsible for overseeing all matters of the Faculty with the support of the Board and the Faculty Committees. She represents the Faculty on RCPI Council and also on other national and international bodies. As Dean, Professor Elizabeth Keane is responsible for overseeing all matters of the Faculty with the support of the Faculty Board and Committees. She represents the Faculty on the RCPI Council and on other national and international bodies.

Dr Vicky Ward, Associate Professor in Knowledge Mobilisation & NIHR Knowledge Mobilisation Research Fellow, Leeds Institute of Health Sciences
Dr Ward is an Associate Professor in Knowledge Mobilisation and her work focuses on how healthcare staff and academics can be supported to learn from, and share their knowledge with, one another. Dr Ward’s recent work has focused on developing a service user feedback framework for improving integrated care, how health and wellbeing managers from different organisations share and create knowledge, how collaborative relationships between academics and NHS managers develop and how knowledge is exchanged within service delivery teams. She has recently been awarded an NIHR Knowledge Mobilisation Research Fellowship on how knowledge is mobilised across health and social care boundaries in community settings. Dr Ward’s teaching focuses on research and evaluation methods and stakeholder engagement.

Inez Bailey, Director of National Adult Literacy Agency
Inez Bailey has been the Director of the National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) since 1997. NALA is a non-profit membership organisation concerned with national coordination, training and policy development in adult literacy work in Ireland. Inez joined NALA in 1995 as Programme Manager of a research and development project, funded under the EU EMPLOYMENT initiative. She co-authored the resulting research publication Access and Participation in Adult Literacy Schemes in 1998 whose recommendations formed key elements of first state policy on adult literacy.

As Director of NALA, Inez has been responsible for initiating the development of the first national quality and assessment frameworks for the adult literacy service, devising a nationally accredited online and distance learning service, using TV to significantly increase participation rates in adult learning and mainstreaming
Inez Bailey, Director of National Adult Literacy Agency
workplace literacy programmes. Current work includes advising on the implementation of the first strategy for further education and training in Ireland.

A graduate of NUI Maynooth, Inez completed a Bachelor of Arts in English, History and Sociology in 1990. She then went on to complete a Masters in History and a Higher Diploma in Adult and Community Education and is currently studying with the University of Sheffield towards an Education Doctorate. Inez is chair of the Southside Partnership, Mounttown Neighbourhood Youth and Family Project and Rockford Manor Board of Management, a board member of CORU, the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs and a member of the Healthy Ireland Council.

Denis Parfenov, Open Knowledge Ambassador/Open Knowledge Ireland, Founder
Denis Parfenov is a civic entrepreneur, founder of the Open Knowledge Ireland and Ambassador for Open Knowledge. Denis is passionate about empowering citizens to make informed choices by making information (data) available and accessible through open source technologies. He organises fora and runs regular Open Data Ireland events with a view to developing Ireland’s digital public infrastructure and influencing policy at the highest political level. Denis initiated, planned and successfully executed a civic campaign which resulted in the Irish government’s commitment to the Open Government Partnership (OGP). He has actively participated in the co-creation of the first Irish OGP National Plan which led to Ireland becoming a full member in July 2014. Denis is a member of Open Data Governance Board. He holds a Masters Degree in International Business from University College of Dublin and a Masters Degree in International Relations from Dublin City University.

Professor Kevin Balanda, Director of Research at the Institute of Public Health in Ireland
Kevin Balanda has over thirty years’ experience in the development and application of health intelligence across the academic, Government and semi-government sectors. Currently, he is the Director of Research at the Institute of Public Health in Ireland (IPH), adjunct Professor of Public Health at UCC and a Fellow of the UK Faculty of Public Health (FFPH). His interests focus on the development and implementation of public health initiatives that address the broader determinants of health and aim to reduce health inequalities.
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Muiris O’Connor, Assistant Secretary at Department of Health

Muiris O’Connor took up the post of Head of R&D and Health Analytics in the Department of Health in November 2015. He moved to the Department of Health from the Higher Education Authority (HEA) where he served as Head of Policy and Strategic Planning since 2008. In that capacity he played a central role in the formulation of the National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030 and led the subsequent development of a new Performance Evaluation Framework for Irish higher education. Before joining the HEA, Muiris spent five years as Statistician in the Department of Education and Science, prior to which he worked with the Conference of Religious of Ireland (CORI), the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) and with the National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG). In his career to date, Muiris has written on a range of education and social policy issues and has made a significant contribution to the quality and relevance of the evidence-base underpinning Irish education policy. In the immediate years ahead, he aims to transform the connectedness and comprehensiveness of the evidence-base underpinning health policy and practice.

Adele Graham, Senior Health Intelligence Manager, Public Health Agency

From being the first ever appointed research and information officer in public health (or community medicine as it was known then) in Northern Ireland, Adele has worked in public health and health services information for thirty years. With a Master in Business Administration and another in Health Informatics Adele has worked across specific research projects, acute services planning for the Eastern Health Board in Belfast, a year working for the Institute of Public Health in Ireland in areas of disease prevalence and data systems and is now responsible for research and information support to PHA. This current role includes supporting public information campaigns in the Agency, evaluation of health improvement interventions, commissioning external work on behalf of the agency and providing advice to a range of partner organisations in health and beyond on public health and health service information systems and research as well as leading on the development of the NINIS ‘Making Life Better’ and working with the community and voluntary sector, local government, academics and health service colleagues to make public health knowledge accessible and promote its’ development and use. Her particular interests include data linkage to look at outcomes and using both quantitative and qualitative approaches to provide a rounded view of topics.
REFLECTIONS ON KNOWLEDGESUPPORT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
CHAIR AND SPEAKER INFORMATION
AFTERNOON PLENARY
(GREAT HALL)