

All-Ireland Institute for Hospice & Palliative Care

Update 3 – December 2007

Update on Progress in December

The Steering Group met in Belfast for the third (of four planned meetings) on December 19th. A 1st draft of the business plan for the Institute has now been completed and progress has been most promising.

Please note that upon completion (late Jan '08), the business case will be circulated for consultation. However the turnaround time for this consultation will be quite short – it needs to be completed during the month of Feb '08 as the business case must be submitted to potential funders in early March.

At Workshop 2, the Steering Group agreed the following outcomes, implementation steps and governance/staffing arrangements for the Institute:

Outcomes to be delivered by the all-Ireland Institute

- 1) The Institute is established and functioning effectively on an all-Ireland basis, with appropriate systems for management and governance
- 2) There is a measureable increase in research capacity, research collaboration and activity in hospice and palliative care
- 3) There is evidence of improved co-ordination of and Increased accessibility and uptake of education programmes relating to palliative and end-of-life care
- 4) There is evidence of beneficial impact on the delivery of palliative and end-of-life care services
- 5) There is evidence of increased participation of service users, carers and advocacy groups in the design and evaluation of palliative care services, research and education/training programmes
- 6) There is evidence of Increased public awareness of palliative and end-of-life care services

Four implementation steps identified for the Institute

Step 1:

The Chairs of the Steering Group, working with Professor Clark, will seek to secure funding for the Institute, exploring a number of different potential streams of income.

Step 2

The Health Research Board (RoI) and the Research and Development Office (NI) will manage the tender process and the selection of a host organisation(s).

Step 3

The Institute will be formally established by the host organisation(s)/consortium. This will require the host organisation(s)/consortium to recruit the necessary staff of the Institute and assist in the appointment of the Advisory Panel.

Step 4

Following a period of 4-5 years, the Institute will be reviewed based on its performance to date and progress towards agreed outcomes and targets. The findings from this review will be used to determine next steps for the Institute. These may include:

- a) **Extending the lifespan of the Institute**, continuing the current activities or modifying the activities of the Institute to meet the evolving needs of education and research in palliative and end of life care [a Phase 2 for the Institute]
- b) **Develop an exit strategy** for the Institute with activities of the Institute being devolved to other organisations in palliative and end-of-life care. The Institute would cease to exist following the devolvement of these.

Governance & Staffing

It is intended that the Institute will be subject to, and operate within, the governance institutions of the organisation(s)/consortium that will host the Institute. An Advisory Panel will be established to provide ongoing support and advice in relation to education and research in palliative and end-of-life care. Staffing of the Institute will include a Director, a Head of Education, a Head of Research, a Head of Information & Communication, Research and Education Fellows and administrative support.

Next Meeting of the Steering Committee – Workshop 3 (January 22nd 2007)

The purpose of Workshop 3 is to finalise the business case and discuss the consultation process / next steps for the establishment of the Institute, in relation to the submission of the business case to potential funders.

We welcome all comments/suggestions in relation to items included in this communiqué. Please forward all correspondence to David Clark at the following details: Email: d.clark@lancaster.ac.uk Phone: 00 44 (0)1524 592513