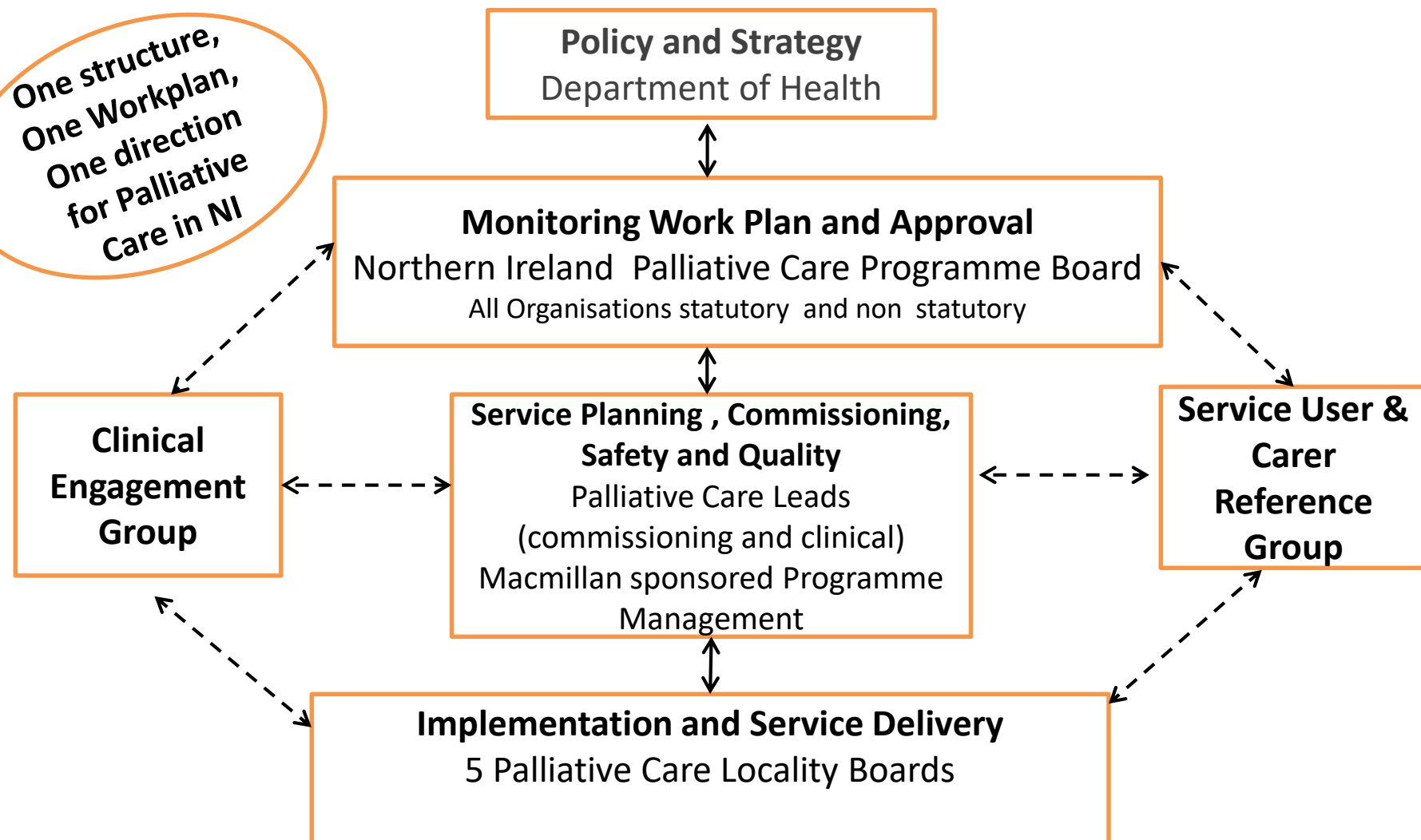


Chris Matthews
Head of Primary Care Unit
Department of Health -
Our Public Health Approach to
Palliative Care



Palliative Care
in partnership

Our Approach



Key Themes

- **Holistic Person Centred / Wellbeing**
- **Education**
- **Policy**
- **Community / Environment**
- **Engagement / Collaboration**

Definition: Public Health Approach to Palliative Care

A public health approach to palliative care recognises the role of society and community in enabling and supporting people living with life-limiting conditions, and those important to them, to live well with flexible, holistic and person-centred care based on positive and collaborative partnership.

A public health approach to palliative care will involve working collaboratively to:

- **Increase awareness, understanding and discussion around palliative care through education and information;**
- **Create and enhance networks across communities and sectors to support people living with a life limiting illness and those important to them;**
- **Encourage people to think about and plan for their future physical, emotional, social, financial and spiritual needs.**

Definition - Criteria

- Recognises the holistic nature of palliative care
- Person-centred
- Community
- Partnership and collaboration
- Positive
- Tangible
- Focus for action

**Round Table on a Public Health Approach
to Palliative and End of Life Care on the Island of Ireland**

Overview of Health Systems – Republic of Ireland

Sheilagh Reaper-Reynolds
HSE Strategy & Planning Lead for Palliative Care

03.12.2019



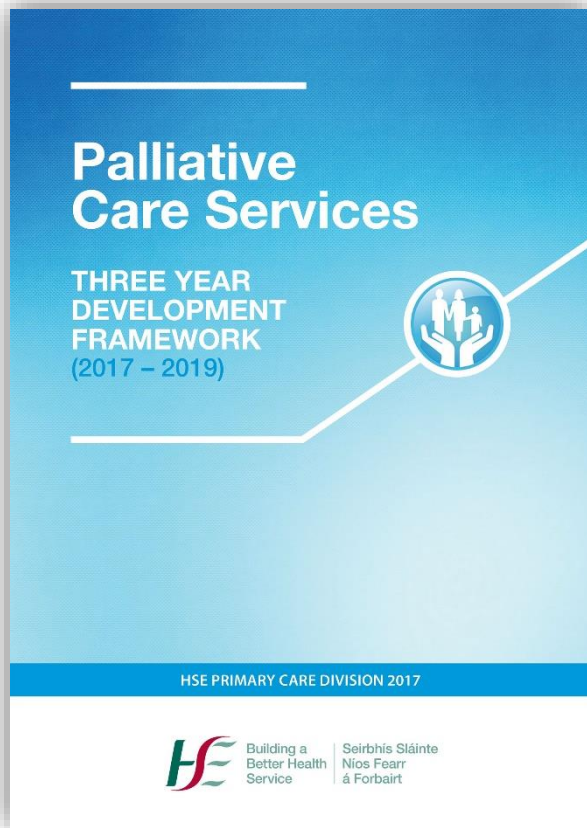
The Report of the National Advisory Committee on Palliative Care (DoHC, 2001)

2.6 KEY RECOMMENDATION

The concept of palliative care should be promoted in the wider community.

Self-help groups, media, schools - teachers and pupils, police, the clergy and funeral directors





Palliative Care Services Three Year Development Framework (HSE, 2017)

Action Point 8.14

The HSE should actively support initiatives to raise public awareness and to change the culture around death and dying.

Any new initiatives should build on the work done to date.

Persuading all specialist palliative care providers to develop a programme of health promoting palliative care activity within their local communities

Palliative Care Development Framework

Public Health Awareness Working Group - Recommendations

- **Aim:** Recommendations on a strategic approach to raising public awareness and increasing understanding of palliative care, including changing culture around death, dying, care and loss.
- A survey and mapping exercise were undertaken

Palliative Care Development Framework

Public Health Awareness Working Group – Underpinning Principles



Palliative Care Development Framework

Public Health Awareness Working Group - Recommendations

1

Establish a national steering group to promote and drive forward

2

Continue the development of understanding of a public health approach to palliative care

3

Build public awareness, understanding of, and engagement in palliative care among (a) health care professionals (b) whole population

Palliative Care Development Framework

Public Health Awareness Working Group - Recommendations

4

Promote greater engagement on dying, death and bereavement and support community capacity building through partnership

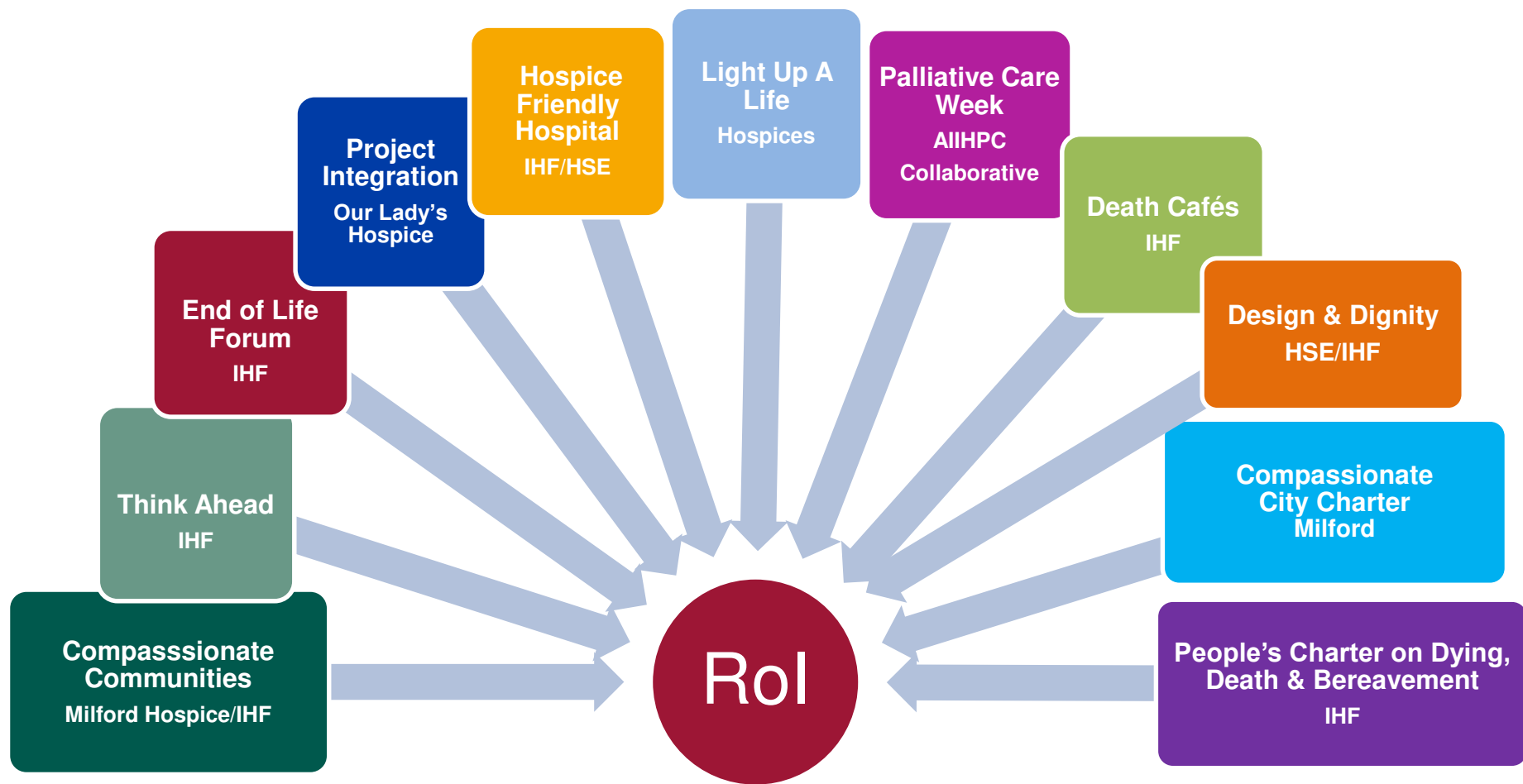
5

Promote planning ahead for end of life



Building a
Better Health
Service

Seirbhís Sláinte
Níos Fearr
á Forbairt



Building a
Better Health
Service

Seirbhís Sláinte
Níos Fearr
á Forbairt

Developing a Public Health Approach

Challenges & Opportunities

Challenges

- Building services
- Over-reliance on fundraising
- Measuring success
- Keeping staff
- Perceptions..... Perceptions

Opportunities

- Review of 2001 Policy
- Sláintecare Report
- Building on what we have
- Learn from NI experience
- Collaboration

Some day,
we will all
die,
Snoopy!

True, but
on all the
other days
we will not.

