

CAWT: Making a Difference to Health in the Border area of Ireland/Northern Ireland



Sadie Bergin, Communications and Corporate Governance Manager, CAWT
Presentation to the EUREGIO II project partner meeting in Cologne, Germany on 20th May 2010



Presentation Aims

- Background to Co-operation and Working Together (CAWT)
- Role and remit of the CAWT cross border partnership
- Structures and governance
- Activities and achievements
- Current work programme under the EU INTERREG IVA process

HEBRIDES



Rationale for CAWT

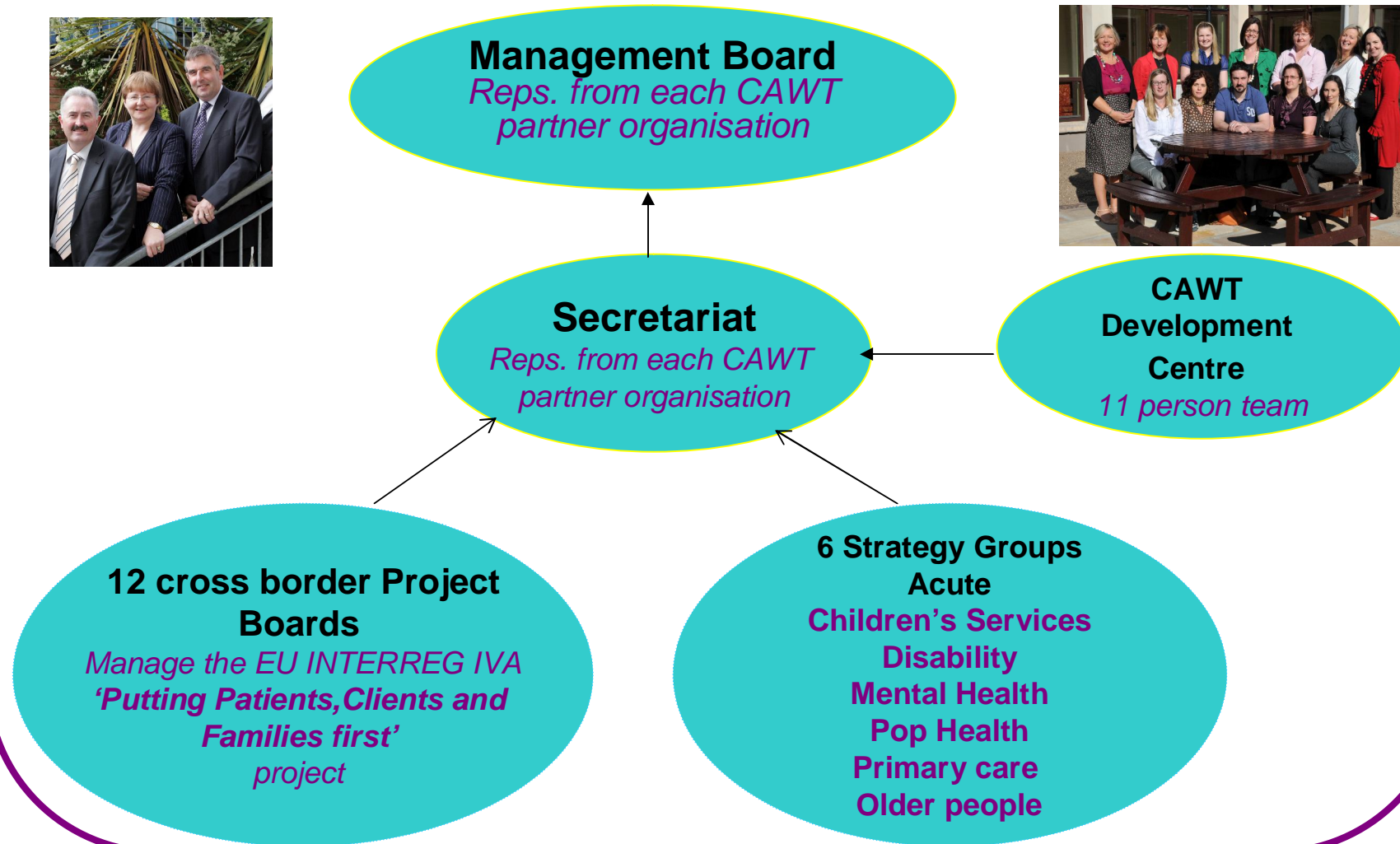
- ö Partnership of the Health Authorities in the border region
- ö Ballyconnell Agreement signed in 1992
- ö Area comprises 25% of the land-area / 21% of the pop.
- ö 1.6 million residents sharing:
 - A common demographic i.e. rurality, infrastructural deficits, distance from larger urban centres
 - Similar health status, trends in morbidity and mortality
- ö Utilise the critical mass of populations across two jurisdictions to:
 - maximise value for money
 - reduce duplication of scarce resources



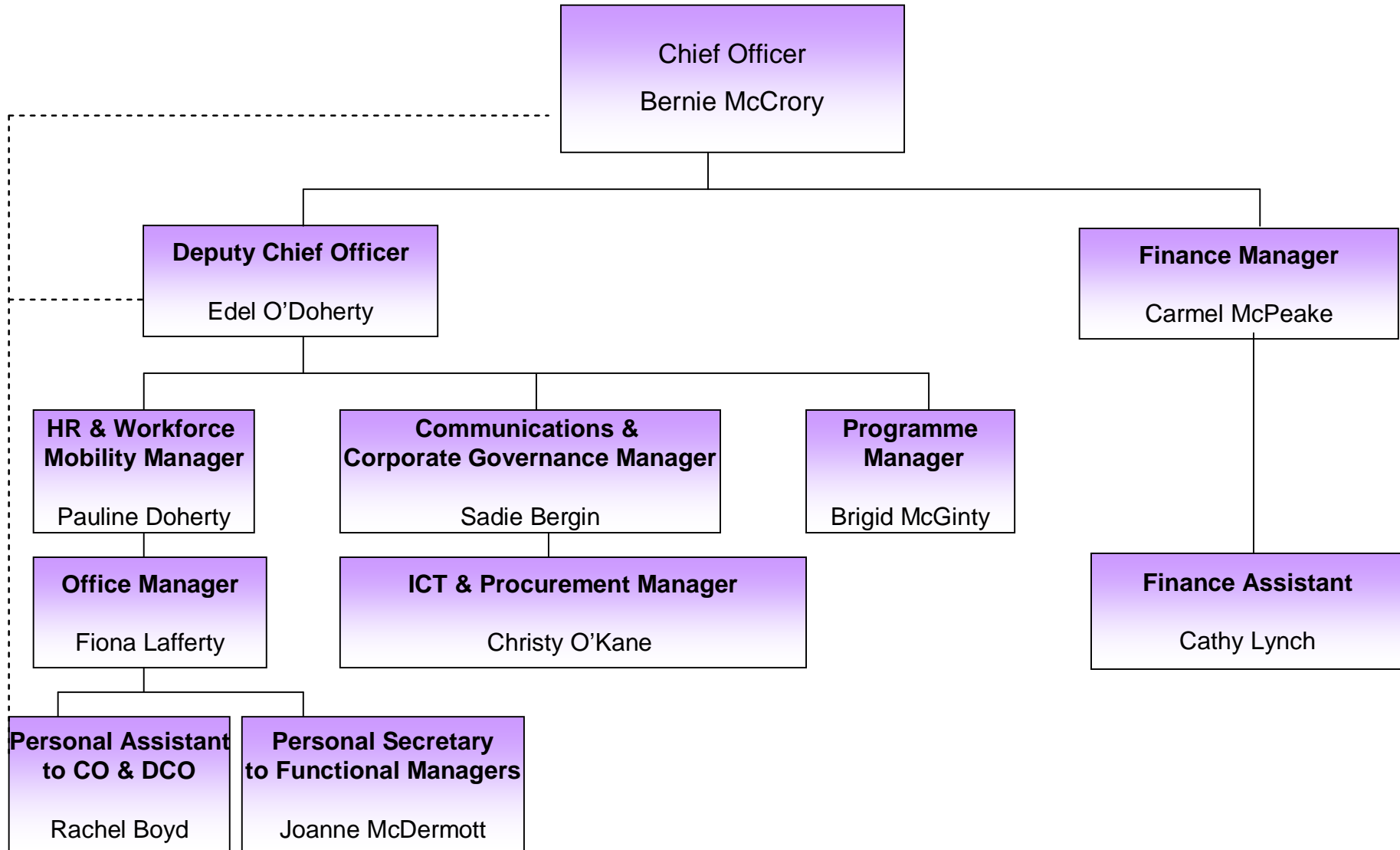
Political Context

- Belfast Agreement signed on 10th April 1998
- North-South Ministerial Council (NSMC) established
- Created 6 cross-border implementation bodies – not health
- 6 areas agreed for co-operation through existing bodies in each jurisdiction – including health
- Endorsement of CAWT as a framework to progress cross-border co-operation within health

CAWT Organisational Structure



CAWT Development Centre Structure



Activities and Achievements

- Over 50 cross border projects implemented with EU funding to date
- Delivered other projects directly commissioned by both Depts of Health:
 - Cross border emergency planning
 - All-island Paediatric Congenital Cardiac Surgery
 - Radiotherapy for the population of Donegal
 - Self Harm Registry
 - Feasibility Study – all-island Health Services

CAWT – Past projects

ACUTE SERVICES

Ear, Nose and Throat Services

Radiotherapy Services (Donegal patients)

Oral Maxillio Facial Services

Renal Network

Diabetes Info System

Recompression Services

DISABILITY

Employment support project

Carers Research Study

Continence Awareness/Support

CHILDCARE

Children's services Planning & Information

Children's Services Outcomes framework

Foster Care Support Study

OLDER PEOPLE

Good Morning Inishowen

HEALTH PROMOTION

Steering to Safety - RTCs

Parents as Sex Educators

Health Impact Assessment

Health Inequalities

Workplace Health

Mental Health Training

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Major Incident Planning

PRIMARY CARE

North West dental skills centre

Cross Border GP Out of Hours

Care of Type 2 Diabetes

PUBLIC HEALTH

Health Protection

Safefood/Food allergy

Traveller Health

Current Work Programme



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund
Investing in your future

- ö EU INTERREG IVA funding
- ö 12 large scale projects completed by 2013
- ö Dept of Health in NI = Lead Partner
- ö Dept of Health in RoI= Project Partner
- ö CAWT has been commissioned to deliver the cross border Health and Social Care measure:

'Putting Patients, Clients and Families First'



Announcing the European Union INTERREG IVA funding for CAWT's cross border health programme (left to right): Michael McGimpsey, MLA, Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety in Northern Ireland; Mary Harney T.D., Minister for Health and Children, Republic of Ireland

'Putting Patients, Clients & Families First' projects



- Acute Hospital Services
- Clinics for Sexually Transmitted Infections
- Development of Eating Disorder Services
- Multi Level Alcohol Harm Reduction
- *'Turning the Curve'* – Autism Support Project
- Improving Outcomes for Children and Families
- Support for Older People
- Preventing and Managing Obesity
- Support for People with a Disability
- Tackling Social Exclusion and Health Inequalities
- Tackling Diabetes in High Risk Clients
- Workforce Mobility

Investment in Health - Decision making

Northern Ireland (NI)

- Programme for Government 2008 - 2011
- Minister/DHSSPS – policy, funding, strategy e.g. ‘priorities for action’
- HSCB/PHA – commission services, identifying needs
- Trusts / Primary care: Services delivered by hospitals, community care services, GPs

Rep. of Ireland (RoI)

- National Development Plan 2007 – 2013
- Programme for Government 2007 - 2012
- Minister / DoHC – policy and strategy e.g. ‘Corporate plan’
- HSE – services funded, commissioned & delivered across acute, primary and community care

Investment in cross border Health ?

- No formal policy on this in either jurisdiction
- EU funding – INTERREG IVA 2007 -2013
 - Linked to CAWT's Strategic Plan 2007 -2013
 - Projects selected after a detailed consultation process
 - Support and complement both jurisdiction's health strategic / priorities
 - EU Health Strategy - *'Together for Health: A Strategic Approach for the EU 2008-2013'*
- Two exceptions
 - Cross border Radiotherapy Centre in the NW
 - Paediatric Congenital Cardiac surgery

Next steps

- Meeting EU targets essential
- Demonstrating value for money
- Focus is long term benefit to patients/clients
- Sustainability and mainstreaming
- Embedding cross border collaboration at the policy level and in health service organisations after EU funding ends

Ministerial comment – Northern Ireland

Michael McGimpsey, Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, Northern Ireland

“My duty is to ensure that the people of Northern Ireland have access to safe, high quality health and social care services. I have previously indicated in this House that I am prepared to support cross-border cooperation in the provision of health and social care, where this can deliver real tangible benefits.

The health and social care systems in each jurisdiction have proven that, where necessary, effective arrangements for closer working can be delivered on a project by project basis. The arrangements for access to radiotherapy services, to paediatric surgery services and the work on suicide prevention are but a few examples. **I do not however intend to create unnecessary administrative structures around north/south cooperation, particularly in the current financial climate.”**

Ministerial comment – Rep. of Ireland

Michael Martin, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Ireland

“.....It therefore makes total sense for the two political jurisdictions on this island, North and South, to co-operate in the interest of providing the best quality of life for the people of this island. By doing so we can provide better public services throughout Ireland and **save the money of taxpayers north and south of the border.**

We have an opportunity also to provide closer and more efficient services by pooling our resources to ensure value for money.....We can go further still by planning our hospital services to enhance choice on both sides of the border.....”

CAWT in Action



CAWT's 12 Project Managers for the EU INTERREG IVA projects



Launching the cross border GP Out of Hours Evaluation report



Cross border Emergency Planning Exercise in 2009



CAWT's Older Person's Project Board visiting an integrated living facility in Dundalk

Co-operation and Working Together (CAWT)



CAWT website - www.cawt.com