



**Men's  
Development  
Network**



**White Ribbon  
Ireland**  
Men Ending Gender-Based Violence

## **Feedback on Draft Healthy Ireland-Men (2023-2027), prepared by Head of Programmes & Advocacy**

February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

### **I – Men's Development Network related change**

1. **Action Item 2.1. (ii) (REWORDING):** *“Piloting two new programmes over the lifetime of the Plan, with two distinct priority groups (e.g. travellers, migrants, farmers) that builds upon the key learnings and innovation from past plans”.*  
[Reworded 2.1. reflects ambition of MDN but also growth in engagement, a commitment to engagement with at least **2 target groups**, rather than a focus on 1 over a 5-year policy cycle.]
2. **Action Item 2.8.** should be moved from T2 on priorities under Healthy Ireland to **T3 – building capacity with those who engage with men and boys**
3. I would like for us, and other NGOs and partners to be removed as Partners in relation to Item 1.7. This item relates to HSE staffing and appointments and should be for Hse and DoH to work on.
4. **MDN should be listed as a lead agent under 3.4.** – SPHE curriculum, especially given our ongoing work in secondary schools under White Ribbon and existing communications with NCCA.

### **II – Action Items and Structure of Draft National Action Plan**

Overall, an excellent piece of work in developing the draft to this point. The below comments are aimed at supporting refinement to the draft and providing greater clarity and supporting implementation.

#### *Governance:*

1. The four themes and associated action items would benefit from the inclusion **quarterly/annual timelines for implementation** of each action item. See for example the structure of the ‘Zero Tolerance 3<sup>rd</sup> National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence’. This will be of support to the planning, workings, and mandate of the new *Implementation Group*.
2. Consider **moving Action Item 1.6. to Action 1.2**, reflecting the priority concern of ensuring financial sustainability for men's health work is evident from the outset of the National Action Plan.
3. As a Governance mechanism under Theme 1, consider explicitly building in a **midway review** into the lifetime of the Action Plan.
4. Under Action Item 1.1., *part (iii) on broadening the scope and representation* should **be moved to (i). This process must come first to ensure the vision and mission statement are formed with new partners.** The intersectional equity-based approach underpins the future programmes implemented under HI-M 2023-2027 and must also



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play a central role in the representation and Governance framework. Broader coalition building from the outset will also support lobbying for endorsement within the Programme for Government.

*Clarifications:*

5. Action Item 3.1. (i) ----- “*strengthening the membership*” ----- clarity needed on if this refers to **expanding the composition** of the Engage programme development team.
6. On Action Item 3.4., the Lead agent should specifically be named as NCCA rather than DoE.

*Restructuring:*

7. Action Item 1.8. is not a Governance issue and should not fit under T1 – Governance. This item should be relocated under T4 on research. The website is a dissemination mechanism for research as opposed to a governance structure.
8. Consider removing the appendix for research for 2017-2023. As a forward looking action-plan for the period of 2023-2027, it may not be necessary to list past works under previous Action Plan.

Grammatical changes:

- Appendix X, under (b) Priority Programme “*health work more generally*” [adding the e]
- Appendix X, page 5, “*internationallly*” [remove the double y]