

Essential educational and training requirements exist within the healthcare system with common requisites across all staff. Sligo has been a leader in evolving systems for service audit, risk management and training programmes.

A key factor facilitating change has been the Research & Education Foundation (REF), a voluntary organisation with charity status. The potential exists, centred in Sligo, for expeditious delivery of a Clinical Services Support Centre (CSSC) for education / training and continuing professional development (CPD) across the workforce spectrum.

The infrastructure of a CSSC is an enabling development towards effective regional development plans in the NPF strategy.

The NPF should consider the model of establishing a CSSC at Sligo University Hospital towards:

- Effective regional development
- Delivery of national and regional benefit
- Providing support services for the health sector off setting geographic disadvantage
- Reducing disparities amongst the regions

A CSSC will create and sustain a competitive healthcare centre at Sligo providing a preferred place to work and live in this region. The Sligo region will benefit from a truly well rounded Level 3 hospital.

Corporate memory and continuity of development has been maintained by the REF and hence has undertaken this submission to the NPF.