

Staff Hone Project Management Skills



From back row (LtoR) down: Eddie Ward, Project Manager Population Health; Liam Dillion, President PMI; Sean McGrath, National Director of HR; Lisa Mullins, PCCC Project Office; Liz Scully, PCCC DML; Eileen O'Dea, PCCC TDO Dublin South City; Roisin Egerton, PCCC TDO Carlow/Kilkenny; Patrick Lynch, Asst National Director, NPMO; Monica Flood, MD, OLASIT; Martina Curran, NHO; Sarah McCormack, NPMO; Deirdre Mullins, PCCC Project Office, West

Some 20 HSE staff members who completed an accredited Management of Projects course received certificates at a ceremony last December. The HSE is committed to delivering safe, quality services while continuing to meet its objectives of strengthening primary care, ensuring hospitals are organised appropriately to deliver the most effective services and building greater links between primary and secondary care services.

To support these objectives, a number of training courses were developed and delivered in 2008 for staff involved in managing projects. The course content was developed in conjunction with, and accredited by, the Project Management Institute of Ireland. This accreditation is internationally recognised.

The course covers all the general principles of good project management, focusing specifically on the way the HSE wants to deliver change. It incorporates training on 'Improving our services', the HSE's change guide published in 2008.

On completing the course, participants felt they had a better understanding of what project management is about. The course also provided practical tools and skills for managing change.

Speaking at the awards ceremony, Sean McGrath, the National Director for HR, referred to the growing demand for effective project management. He acknowledged that achieving change, as well as cost efficiencies, requires the type of structured approaches offered by project management. He added that skilled Project Managers are needed within the HSE and that good project management skills will be required for the implementation of the Integrated Services Programme.