



Members' Bulletin

On 30 September 2020, the employer wrote to staff and Unions. In their letter, they explained that they had notified the Health Service Executive (HSE) of their intention to terminate their contract for the provision of Community Services. The notice period has a contractual duration of twelve months.

On 01 October, Fórsa wrote to the employer acknowledging receipt of their letter. In this correspondence, the Union emphasised our expectation that the employer would commit to meaningful engagement in the coming weeks.

On 09 October, Fórsa was invited to attend a meeting with the CEO and representatives of the employer's Senior Management Team. At the time of the meeting, the HSE had not yet responded to the employer's notice of termination. Accordingly, the level of detail provided to Unions was limited.

Fórsa has put, to the employer, some initial comments about the process.

1. The Union believes that matters which impact our members should be the subject of negotiation with the employer. We have proposed establishing arrangements for the talks as a matter of priority.
2. The Union has asked the employer to agree to the publication of a Frequently Asked Questions document.
3. The Union has put to the employer that there should be no fragmentation of the existing services before the prospective transfer. That means that the whole workforce should migrate to one employer at the point of transfer.

Local representatives and officials have been meeting and maintaining communication, since the moment we received notification of the employer's decision. The Dublin Health Cluster team has met with representatives of members in the Carmona, Liffey and Menni Services. Elsewhere, colleagues based in Fórsa Regional Centres have engaged with the representatives from services in Louth and Kerry.

Your local representatives will have a crucial role in informing the Union's strategy in response to the employer's announcement. It has never been more critical for St John of God workers to be a member of Fórsa. It would help if you encouraged your colleagues to join the Union using the online-joiner facility on the website.

All members should continue to engage with their local representatives if they have questions about the employer's announcement.

Details for local Fórsa Representatives

Carmona Services:
rkennedy@forsa-rep.ie

Liffey Services:
sjogliffey@forsa-rep.ie

Menni Services & North East Services:
dublinhealthcluster@forsa.ie

Kerry Services:
kerrybranch@forsa-rep.ie

JOIN FÓRSA ONLINE TODAY

<http://www.forsa.ie/join>

Any other questions?

For a quick response, or to arrange a call, send us an email to dublinhealthcluster@forsa.ie

The Fórsa Team

Assistant General Secretaries:

Seán McElhinney (Dublin/Kildare), Eimear Ryan (North East), Eddie Walsh (Kerry)

Industrial Relations' Officer:

Deirdre O'Connell-Hopkins (Dublin/Kildare)

Organiser:

Paul Walsh (South East Services)