Staff Nurse/ Midwife Graduate Programme: Employment Opportunity including Professional Certificate in Nursing/Midwifery (Applied Professional and Clinical Development)

The Office of Nursing and Midwifery Services is pleased to announce that as part of the Haddington Road Agreement, a commissioning process for the education programme for *Staff Nurse/ Midwife Graduates* has been completed. The School of Nursing and Midwifery Royal College of Surgeons Ireland (RCSI) will be providing the programme. This programme will consist of three modules formally accredited by NUI/RCSI, delivered over a two year period. These modules will encompass three specific themes: Quality and Safety, Communication and Teamwork and Patient Centred Care.

On completion of the programme participants will be awarded a *Professional Certificate in Nursing/Midwifery* (*Applied Professional and Clinical Development NQF Level 9*). This programme will be part-time and delivered using a blended learning approach - that is a blend of online and face to face delivery methods. The face to face component of the programme will be delivered at regional sites to facilitate ease of access. Approval will be sought for this programme from The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland.

Each module consists of two supported face to face days with the remainder of the module accessed online and in conjunction with self-directed student work. The modules will encompass a discipline specific approach for nursing/midwifery graduates and will enable the graduate to gain 10 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) for each module giving a total of 30 ECTS upon completion of the programme. These 30 credits will count towards continuing professional development as well as providing a platform for post graduate diplomas, MSc and further academic and career progression.

The inaugural meeting for the Staff Nurse/Staff Midwife Certificate Education Steering Group took place on Monday 14th October 2013 chaired by Dr. Michael Shannon ONMSD. Future meetings will be co-chaired by Ms. Avilene Casey, President of Irish Association of Directors of Nursing and Midwifery (IADNAM).

Dr Michael Shannon Nursing & Midwifery Services Director, Assistant National Director, Clinical Strategy & Programmes Directorate HSE & Adjunct Professor UCD School of Nursing and Midwifery and Health Systems

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