

2nd April 2009

Dear Colleague

Many thanks for attending today's unprecedented national meeting of all nursing home owners. There is outrage and dismay in the sector following repeated failures and broken promises by the Minister for Health and Children and the HSE.

This is a key time for long term care in Ireland. We must act now and work together to secure a strong and viable private and voluntary sector nursing home sector in Ireland, or we can watch the Minister for Health and Children and the HSE extinguish the ability of the sector to continue to provide the high standards of affordable, accessible care that we demand of ourselves and that the older people in our care deserve.

To be effective in this lobbying campaign, we must speak with one voice and make a concerted effort right across the country.

Every member and non member has the ability to influence in their local area, as respected members of the community, business people and carers.

The Board and I call on you all to use your influence to draw attention to the serious and unsustainable situation that both nursing homes and the older people in our care find themselves in.

We would ask you to:

- Use materials provided in this pack to form the basis of your local campaign. There are more materials including facts and figures, Question & Answers documents etc on the website www.nhi.ie to support our campaign.
- Keep in touch with the NHI head office – that way we can provide you with the support you need and ensure a coordinated campaign nationally.
- Take action immediately. Complete the postcards and encourage families, relatives, staff and friend to support our campaign.

Yours sincerely



Tadhg Daly
Chief Executive