

COUNCILLORS REPORT ON CONFERENCE WHICH THEY ATTENDED  
REQUIRED TO BE COMPLETED UNDER SECTION 142(5) (f) and (fa) OF THE  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2001

Organiser of Conference Celtic Conferences

Name of Conference Irish Health Services Entitlements

Location of Conference Four Seasons Hotel, Carlingford, Co. Louth.

Date of Conference 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2025

Summary of Conference Content

08/12/2025

I attended the conference on the Irish Health Services and Entitlements to equip Councillors with a clear, practical understanding of the Irish Health System and the healthcare entitlements available to their constituents.

In Ireland, everyone who is ordinarily resident, as well as certain visitors, can access a wide range of public health services, either free of charge or at a reduced cost. You are considered ordinarily resident if you have been living in Ireland for at least one year or intend to do so. In some cases, short term visitors may also qualify for specific free or discounted services, depending on their individual circumstances.

Under EU regulations, individuals may qualify for a medical card if they are ordinarily resident in Ireland and receive a social security pension from another EU/EEA country or Switzerland. Eligibility may also extend to those who work and pay social insurance contributions in one of these countries—provided they are not receiving a contributory Irish social welfare payment or employed in Ireland under a PRSI obligation. Those employed in Ireland may also be eligible for a means-tested medical card, depending on their income and personal situation.

By understanding these structures and entitlements I was able to learn to better support constituents in navigating the healthcare system and ensuring equitable access to essential services.

  
Michael Collins

Limerick City & County Council

- 8 DEC 2025

Corporate & Governance

THIS FORM TO BE SUBMITTED WITH CLAIM FORM FOR TRAVEL AND  
SUBSISTENCE