



HSE Procurement representatives Michael Lanigan; Jody Callan; John Swords, National Director of HSE Procurement; Mark Smith; Padraig Smollen.

HSE Procurement meets the healthcare marketplace

HSE Procurement partnered with Procurex Ireland 2023 for invaluable opportunities to network and learn across public procurement and the healthcare marketplace.

The RDS opened its doors to the Procurex Ireland event during April to innovate, educate and collaborate with public sector procurement. The one-day event provided a unique and interactive opportunity for both the buyers and suppliers within the public procurement community to engage across a range of innovative event features.

As the largest purchaser in the State, HSE Procurement were delighted to be one of the official event partners. This collaboration is part of the commitment, signalled in the HSE Corporate Procurement Plan 2022-2024, for continued strong engagement with current and prospective suppliers.

John Swords, National Director for HSE Procurement, said, "It is wonderful to be back at this event, meeting people in person and shaking hands really adds a different dimension to the networking we had to adapt over the past few years."

He reflected on the many challenges encountered since he last addressed the Procurex Ireland audience. Thanking the suppliers for their support and collaboration, particularly over the course of the pandemic, he highlighted the importance of working together to

"In the HSE we have shared responsibilities, with our supply base we have shared responsibilities, all of which are centred on delivering a better patient experience."

protect frontline patient services.

On the day attendees were invited to join a number of skill development zones which were centred on four separate themes of social consideration, digital and innovation, bid support, and green procurement. Suppliers interested in learning more about how to do business with the HSE visited the HSE Procurement stand and took part in a meet the buyer session where there was an opportunity to have one-to-one meetings with HSE Procurement Purchasers.

THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF HSE PROCUREMENT TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS A NUMBER OF THEMES WITH THE AUDIENCE ON THE DAY, WHICH INCLUDED:

- **HSE Corporate Procurement Plan** – Security of supply, supporting patient care, compliance, value for money
- **IFMS** - A Single National Integrated Finance and Procurement Management System for the Irish health sector
- **The impact of price increases** – 'Responsibilities both ways'
- **The power of innovation and collaboration**
- **The importance of climate action and sustainability**
- **Working in partnership** – The importance of strong engagement with our current and prospective suppliers will be needed to help us in transforming how we deliver our services and achieve agreed Sláintecare objectives.