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CONTENTS

4 NEWS UPDATE

12 DEFENCE FORCES



Tasked with undertaking a comprehensive review of the Defence Forces before the end of this year, the next few months will certainly tell the tale if the Commission can fully address and help to remedy the issue of army structures, falling personnel numbers, the need to re-equip and the long-awaited improvement on pay and conditions.

21 FORENSIC SCIENCE IRELAND



The next three years will be a time of significant change for Forensic Science Ireland (FSI), and Chris Enright, FSI Director General, says that they are firmly focused on providing the Irish justice system with a high quality integrated forensic service through independent, expert scientific analysis and advice to best international standards.

28 HEALTH AND WELLBEING

A new €2m state-of-the-art Laya Health & Wellbeing Clinic has opened its doors in Limerick, as part of a total investment of €5m across five Laya Health & Wellbeing Clinics nationwide, to provide a consultant-led alternative to A&E departments in hospitals when it comes to urgent care for minor injuries and illnesses.

31 FEMALES AT THE FRONTLINE

An all-island group of women who work in areas such as medicine, healthcare, psychology, law, academia, and advocacy, claims that women on the frontline can no longer take the strain of dealing with the pandemic, and the group has cited the need for increased staffing and efforts to detect Covid clusters.

32 AIR AMBULANCE



The opportunity to gain experience in pre-hospital emergency medicine as flight doctors with charity air ambulances in England, was the main reason for two Irish medics to move across the water. Talking about their respective journeys to date, they both highlight the need for similar structures to be set up by helicopter emergency medical services in this country.

40 CORK AIRPORT POLICE AND FIRE SERVICE



Following the outbreak of Covid-19, Cork Airport reviewed its emergency plans to consider the emerging threat of the virus, moving rapidly to work with the public health authorities, according to Ken Roberts, Chief Fire Officer, who outlines the protocols they have put in place to deal with this pandemic.

49 FIRE SERVICE CAPITAL PROGRAMME

A new €61 million Fire Service Capital Programme (2021-2025) will see six new fire stations built, continued support for the construction of a further 12 new fire stations, nine fire station refurbishments, in addition to the allocation of 35 new fire engines.

50 DCU COVID RESEARCH



A new report from Dublin City University, on the experiences of pre-hospital first responders during the Covid-19 pandemic, found that contracting the virus and passing it to loved ones was a primary source of worry for them, while a lack of facilities and the equipment needed for protection and sanitisation was also found to cause distress.

CONTENTS

52 COMMUNITY RESCUE BOATS



Operating on our coasts and major inland waterways, a wide network of community-based rescue boats has resulted in a major reduction in the number of drowning tragedies on Ireland's waters. We take a look at the work of some of these voluntary organisations around the country in providing invaluable assistance to the frontline emergency services.

59 MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

There has been a great response to a new free mental health service to support people working at the frontline during Covid-19. The initiative has been provided by turn2me – the first organisation in Ireland to provide professional mental health support services entirely online, with funding from Sláintecare.

61 CRITICAL HEALTHCARE

Critical Healthcare, Ireland's leading provider of specialist frontline medical and healthcare products to emergency services both at home and abroad, has renewed its contract with the HSE National Ambulance Service (worth up to €15m) for a further three-year period.

63 CPR TRAINING

A young doctor is urging people to learn CPR after saving her father's life when he suffered a cardiac arrest while they were out cycling. Dr Caoimhe Costigan made her call during the Irish Heart



Foundation's annual 'Restart a Heart Day' awareness campaign – a two-week online initiative, which took place instead of the usual live classes for the public due to Covid-19 restrictions.

67 AMBULANCE SERVICE



As advanced paramedic Kieran Henry retires from the HSE National Ambulance Service, he recalls the highs and lows of a 30-year career, responding to emergency call-outs throughout Ireland. Stepping down as Operations Resource Manager in his native Cork, he says it's time to move on and looks forward to the next chapter of his life.

71 HYPERBARIC OXYGEN THERAPY

Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy is a medical treatment that biologically repairs and regenerates human tissue by increasing tissue oxygen levels to produce long-term therapeutic benefits for a variety of conditions.

73 EMERGENCY SERVICES SHOW

Transformational change in the emergency services, driven by challenges presented by Covid-19 and the fast pace of technical innovation rolled out to the sector, is set to be a major theme of The Emergency Services Show, which is set to return to Birmingham's NEC on 7 and 8 September.

75 UK FIRE SERVICE

UK fire and rescue service employers have unilaterally scrapped a ground-breaking agreement with the Fire Brigades Union, which had enabled firefighters to assist the NHS and care sector response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

77 UK NEWS

85 INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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