

This Is My Beautiful House: Culture, Dignity & Future Models of Home Care

Speaker Bios

Eamon O Shea (CHAIR)

Eamon O'Shea is Professor of Economics at the National University of Ireland Galway and Director of the Centre for Economic and Social Research on Dementia. He is a Health Research Board (HRB) Research Leader in dementia in Ireland, and has worked extensively on home care, in research and policy.

Niamh O'Rourke

Niamh O'Rourke is Head of Standards at the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) in Ireland. She has previously worked in the National Patient Safety Office in the Department of Health, the National Cancer Control Programme and the HSE. Prior to that she worked as a nurse both in Ireland and overseas in Australia and Germany and as volunteer with CONCERN in Cambodia. Niamh obtained a Masters in Public Health from UCD, Masters in Health Services Management from TCD and a PhD in Health Services research from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

Liam Burke

Liam Burke is a Dublin based actor/director /facilitator/teacher with strong Galway and Tipperary connections. Previously he was in the Catering Industry, graduating from what is now TU in Hotel Management. He worked in Ireland, UK, Australia, and Canada in various roles in hotels, restaurants, hospitals, oil rigs and mining towns. Returning to education in 1999, he received a Bachelors Degree in Speech and Drama from TU and a Masters Degree in Theatre Directing from UCD. He has worked as an actor/ director/facilitator/producer internationally in Spain, New Zealand, the US, Finland and France. He has a strong interest in

community development and the process of ageing and surviving for older people generally and creatives in particular.

Fiona Weldon

Fiona Weldon joined ILMI in November 2021 and has over 30 years of experience in working in the Disability Sector. All of her work is motivated by the reality of the effects of segregation, exclusion and non-disabled professionalism. Fiona holds an MA in Disability Studies, Diplomas in Community Development, Information Communication Technology (ICT) and Counselling Skills. Fiona has worked for the National Institute for Intellectual Disability (NIID) in Trinity College, NUI Maynooth and the National Anti-Bullying Research and Resource Centre in Dublin City University. Her work here involved evaluating/researching and/or delivering evidence-based Bespoke Training Programmes that purposely intend to enable disabled people to believe in themselves to want better lives. This work has both travelled nationally and internationally.