



# Doctors to quiz Prospectus author on health reform plans

**By Barbara Clinton**

The "pull of private practice" is creating problems for some doctors who find it difficult to commit to initiatives such as the clinicians in management programme, according to **Dr John Fennell**, founder member of the Clinicians in Management Ireland group.

Dr Fennell made his comment ahead of an address by Mr Vincent Barton, of Prospectus Strategy Consultants, to the CMI group on the health service reforms.

Dr Fennell said concerns were likely to be expressed that the reforms may create a huge bureaucratic monstrosity where it is not clear where accountability lies, said Dr Fennell. "For instance, how can we

know that it won't take longer to appoint consultants than it did when Comhlaire na nOspidéal was independent?", he said.

Dr Fennell said doctors want to know who will be in control under the new system. "The people at the top are very important", he said.

Dr Fennell also said that the core issues of funding and capacity had not been dealt with. "After Brennan and Prospectus and Hanly, what will happen in a few years if they decide to employ a new group of consultants? We have concerns that they are still fiddling with the system and have not done anything to address the two-tier structure," said Dr Fennell.



**Dr John Fennell**