

**SOUTH WESTERN AREA HEALTH BOARD**

**Minutes of proceedings of Monthly Meeting of the South Western Area Health Board  
held in the Council Chambers, Kildare County Council, St Mary's, Naas, Co. Kildare,  
on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2000 at 2.00 p.m.**

***Present***

Mr. P. Aspell	Dr. S. Barry
Cllr. C. Byrne	Cllr. E. Byrne
Cllr. T. Cullen	Dr. K. Harkin
Ms. A. Harris	Ms. M. Hoban
Cllr. C. McGrath	Cllr. M. Miley
Ald. M. Mooney	Dr. B. Murphy
Cllr. C. O'Connor	Sen. S. Ó Fearghail
Cllr. J. Reilly	Sen. T. Ridge
Cllr. D. Tipping	Cllr. J. Wall, T.D.
Dr. M. Gueret	Mr. G. Brady
Mr. M. Murphy	

***Apology***

Ms. N. Harvey	Mr. G. McGuire
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***In the Chair***

Cllr. C. O'Connor

***Officers in Attendance***

Mr. P. Donnelly, Chief Executive  
Mr. S. O'Brien, Asst. Chief Executive  
Ms. B. Clarke, Asst. Chief Executive  
Mr. P. Bennett, Asst. Chief Executive  
Mr. J. Leech, Senior Manager, Chief Executive's Office  
Ms. P. Bryan, Senior Manager, Chief Executive's Office  
Mr. R. Kavanagh, Senior Manager, Operations  
Ms. F. Browne, Communications Officer  
Ms. P. Dempsey, Administrative Support, Chief Executive's Office  
Ms. A. Barry, Administrative Support, Chief Executive's Office

**35/2000****CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

The Chairman read the following report which was noted by the Board:-

**1. Condolences**

I am sure members will join with me in expressing sincere sympathy to those whose names have been included on the list of condolences which has been circulated to members.

**2. Future Board Meetings**

I wish to remind members that the next meeting of our Board will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2000 at 2.00 p.m. in St. Vincent's Hospital, Athy. There will be no Board meeting in August and the September meeting will be held in the Adelaide and Meath Hospital incorporating the National Children's Hospital, Tallaght at 2.00 p.m. on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2000. Details of visits for Board members have been circulated with the agenda papers and details of meetings for the next two months have also been circulated today.

**3. Election to Senate**

I am sure members will join with me in congratulating Sen. Seán Ó Fearghail on his recent election to the Senate.

In response to the Chairman's report, Cllr. J. Reilly, Cllr. J. Wall, and Cllr. T. Cullen congratulated Sen. Ó Fearghail on his recent election to the Senate. Sen. Ó Fearghail thanked members for their good wishes.

**36/2000****MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD MEETINGS HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2000**

The minutes of the proceedings of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2000, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr. J. Reilly, seconded by Sen. S. Ó Fearghail.

**(a) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

The Chief Executive stated that it is planned to have the Maynooth Community Unit for Older Persons completed by end 2001.

The Chief Executive agreed to arrange a briefing for Cllr. D. Tipping regarding a site at Tallaght village.

The Chief Executive stated that the process of assessment for accessing nursing home care for persons aged under sixty five years is similar to that for persons aged over sixty five years.

**37/2000****QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

It was agreed to answer the questions which had been lodged.

**1. Dr. Kieran Harkin**

“To ask the Chief Executive with regard to waiting times for patients living in the community and assessed as needing Nursing Home Care what is the longest time any patient currently on the waiting list has been waiting and

- a) How long has the average patient on the current waiting list been waiting to date?
- b) What is the maximum waiting time the Chief Executive believes is acceptable?
- c) Could the Chief Executive please outline any plan which may exist to achieve this standard?”

**Reply**

There is an ongoing review by the Consultant led multidisciplinary teams of the medical needs of older patients who are awaiting “long-term” placement. Patients are admitted to this level of care in accordance with their individual medical priority needs and as a consequence the “waiting time” for appropriate placement varies between patients.

All patients in need of medical care should have ease of access to the appropriate level of care in accordance with their individual medical needs.

In line with the “Health Strategy, Shaping a Healthier Future” our Board’s policy is supporting the expansion of services to meet the increased needs of older persons.

This includes:

- The provision of appropriate levels of hospital and residential/nursing care for older persons, when they can no longer be maintained in dignity and independence at home
- Extending the number of day care places
- Respite/Intermittent Care and the number of private nursing home places will be increased, as necessary.
- Further development of Community Ward Teams
- Employment of Health Promotion Officers for Older Persons
- The development of Community Units for example those in Maynooth, St Lomans and the Meath Hospital site
- Additional rehabilitation beds on the campus of acute general hospitals

In order to focus on the needs of older persons I have established a Care Planning and Policy Development Forum between our Board, St. James’s Hospital, the Adelaide Meath incorporating the National Children’s Hospital and General Practitioners to develop a strategy to address the health and social needs of older persons.

**2. Cllr. Eric Byrne**

“To ask the Chief Executive, while applauding the efforts made to improve the image, by painting and minor alterations, at our clinics on Old County Road and Curlew Road, Dublin 12, will the Chief Executive now agree that it is time to build a new clinic in Terenure and that the old drab appearance of the Cashel Road clinic requires a major facelift and modernisation and will he make a statement on the issue?”

**Reply:**

Plans are advanced to develop a new Primary Care Centre and sheltered accommodation on the existing site in Terenure jointly with Dublin Corporation. These works are included in our National Development Plan Submission for capital funding and it is anticipated that works will commence in year 2001. In the interim remedial works will be carried out to enhance the existing buildings in Terenure.

With regard to Cashel Road Health Centre, it is proposed to carry out a major re-development of the site. Plans are being finalised by the Area Management Team in consultation with staff and local residents. This development is also included in our National Development Plan submission for capital funding, and it is anticipated that these works will commence this year.

**3. Cllr. Eric Byrne**

“To ask the Chief Executive, if any child suffering from Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (A.D.H.D.) in the Board’s area is in receipt of Domiciliary Care Allowance? Will he outline the criteria necessary for eligibility when a child has A.D.H.D. and will he make a statement on the issue?”

**Reply**

The Domiciliary Care Allowance is a monthly allowance paid and administered by Health Boards in respect of children who are severely physically disabled or suffering from an intellectual disability which requires care and attention which is considerably in excess of that normally required by a child of the same age.

Information as to whether any child suffering from A.D.H. D. in the Board’s area is in receipt of a Domiciliary Care Allowance is not available. The term Attention Defecit Hyperactivity Disorder is not classified under the current illness classification system, which is used in our data base for the collection of statistical information.

Assessments are carried out by Area Medical Officers who make recommendations in relation to eligibility having regard to the criteria laid down as above . In the case of an application deemed to be ineligible and appealed, the application is reassessed by a medical review group.

#### 4. Dr. Kieran Harkin

“To ask the Chief Executive, with regard to the Drug Addiction Services in the area, could he please advise:-

- (a) How many opiate addicts are resident in the Board’s catchment area?
- (b) How many of these people are at present in receipt of methadone maintenance?
- (c) How many people are on the waiting list for methadone maintenance treatment and how are these waiting lists distributed throughout the area?
- (d) Could the Chief Executive please estimate the length of time a person joining a waiting list for methadone maintenance on, for example, 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2000, would expect to wait to receive this service. Could the estimated waiting time be detailed for each major treatment centre in the area and could the Chief Executive comment on how these estimates are arrived at?”

#### Reply

##### Section (a)

Statistics for the Board’s area have yet to be compiled but we can extrapolate from existing data in the region. The most recent research in this area was carried out by Dr. C.M. Comiskey, Institute of Technology, Tallaght, in his report entitled “*Estimating the Prevalence of Opiate Drug Use in Dublin, Ireland.*” This report identifies the minimum prevalence estimates of opiate use among males aged 15 to 24 years by location of residence.

Using this as an indicator there is a high prevalence of drug misuse in Dublin 8, 10, 12, 22 and 24. The report states – “*To be specific a population of 13,460 opiate drug users in Dublin in 1996 between the ages of 15 and 54 inclusive was estimated from the three data sources*”. It also states that “*Not all of these may seek or be in need of treatment, looking at results derived from medical data alone it would appear that approximately 6,000 – 7,000 may require treatment*”.

##### Section (b)

At present there are 4,499 persons on the Central Treatment List, with 1,920 persons resident in the South Western Area. Treatment for these clients is provided through the Board’s Addiction Centres and Satellite Clinics as well as direct service provision by General Practitioners. Modalities of treatment would include both detoxification and methadone maintenance.

##### Section (c)

The details of waiting lists as follows:

	<u>Total</u>
Aisling Clinic, Ballyfermot	53
Fortune House, Ballyfermot	6
Castle Street	0

Cork Street	0
James's Street	0
Tallaght	65
Crumlin	73
<b>Total</b>	<b>197</b>

### **Section (d)**

The average length of time that a person joining a waiting list can expect to wait before commencement of treatment is as follows:-

- Aisling Clinic,  
Ballyfermot: approximately 6 months.
- Fortune House: this is a specific Detox Programme and the waiting list time here is relatively short depending on what stage the existing programme is at but an average length of time would be approximately one month.
- Tallaght: 6 months
- Crumlin 2 - 4 months

These figures are based predominantly on our experience to date and from analysis of waiting list times over the last year for Tallaght, Fortune House and the Aisling Clinic.

The Crumlin Clinic has only recently opened but based on our experience of developing services we would estimate the waiting time of approximately 2 to 4 months.

The Board's General Practice Co-ordinators and Liaison Pharmacist continue to work actively with General Practitioners and with Community Pharmacists to encourage them to provide treatment and dispensing facilities to patients in the local community.

In addition the Board is actively developing services in Tallaght, Drimnagh, Rathfarnham, Inchicore and Clondalkin and as facilities are developed they will impact positively on the waiting lists.

**38/2000**

### **REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The Chief Executive read the following progress report to members (copy filed with official minute):

**Report No. 18/2000****REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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**1. *Cluster of severe unexplained illness among injecting drug users***

Since the beginning of May 2000 there has been a cluster of cases of severe unexplained illness among injecting drug users in Glasgow. Information to hand indicates that since May 1, there have been 15 heroin users admitted to hospital in Dublin with unidentified severe illness. Of those admitted 8 have died. The E.R.H.A. through its Department of Public Health established a group to review information, to determine the cause and to make recommendations on measures to prevent further cases. This group has been linking with a number of bodies including the National Disease Surveillance Centre, St James's Hospital, the Gardaí and Scottish authorities. On-going information is being obtained from hospitals, general practitioners and drug treatment centres.

A number of specific response measures have been introduced including:

- Additional outreach workers have been assigned to the Dublin 8 and 12 areas to make contact with heroin users who continue to inject. The outreach workers advise about the dangers of this practice and refer appropriate patients to treatment centres for emergency assessment.
- Addiction centres are providing emergency assessment on a daily basis including week-ends.
- Needle exchange facilities also advise contacts about the danger of continuing to inject.
- A number of emergency places in drug treatment centres including Trinity Court have been provided.
- The help line service has been expanded.

Additional measures will be discussed with the E.R.H.A. this week.

**2. *Review of National Drugs Strategy***

The overall aim of the Government's drug strategy is to provide an effective, integrated response to the problems posed by drug misuse. Given the considerable amount of resources and in particular the scale of the problem of drug abuse it is considered opportune that a review of the current National Drug Strategy should be undertaken at this time. The objective of the review is to identify any gaps or deficiencies in the Strategy, to develop revised strategies and if necessary to develop new structures through which to deliver them. The closing date for receipt of submissions was 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2000 and public consultative fora will be held this month. A forum will be held for our area on Thursday next, at which personnel from our Board participate. It is expected that the review will be concluded by the end of September 2000. The three Area Boards made a joint submission to the review

**3. *Capital Development for the Health Services***

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2000 in which the Minister for Health and Children, Mr Micheál Martin announced details of the investment being made by Government for the health services under the National Development Plan (2000-2006). The total of £2 billion recently made available will allow for substantial improvements in the physical infrastructure and equipping of the health service and

allows for investment in the area of Information Technology. Our Board has drafted detailed proposals to the Eastern Regional Health Authority under the National Development Plan for capital funding for the period 2000 - 2006.

I have been advised that a significant allocation will be made available to our Board for the year 2000. This funding which will be utilised during the course of this year will enable us to undertake a comprehensive range of projects including refurbishments, equipment replacement, completing a number of existing projects and preparing for long-term developments in a number of key service sectors. The funding will be allocated under the following headings:

- Completion of existing projects
- Commencement of new projects
- Equipment replacement
- Purchase of new equipment
- Property purchase
- Refurbishment of existing premises

In line with the requirements of the Department of Health and Children relating to the implementation of the National Development Plan, the funding will be allocated between the hospital and non-hospital sectors. Mr Seamus O'Brien will manage our Board's developments under the Plan. Further details will be brought to members when our allocation is received.

#### **4. *Waiting List Strategy***

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting, copies of a press release dated 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2000 in which Mr. Micheál Martin T.D. Minister for Health and Children announced details of a major targeted initiative on public hospital waiting lists. This will see an additional 7,600 waiting list procedures being performed by hospitals by the end of this year. These procedures are in addition to those already agreed with hospitals in this year's service plans. The cost of the initiative will be approx. £10 million. The Board will work closely with the ERHA in relation to the implementation of the initiative.

#### **5. *Care Planning and Policy Development Forum for Older Persons***

The South Western Area Health Board; St. James's Hospital; the Adelaide/Meath Hospitals incorporating the National Children's Hospital; and general practitioners are establishing a new partnership approach to care planning and policy development for older persons through a Care Planning and Policy Development Forum. The Forum will have its inaugural meeting in June when the terms of reference of the group will be established. Our Board's objective is to improve the health and well-being of older persons by providing high quality care in the most appropriate setting. Board members will be informed further on developments.

#### **6. *Psychiatric Nurses Dispute***

There will be a one day work stoppage (8.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m.) by psychiatric nurses at the acute unit in Tallaght. . This action is part of a national dispute. Contingency plans are in place for emergencies and we are in constant contact with the strike committee.

#### **7. *Anti-Smoking Campaign***

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2000 in which Ms. Mary Hanafin T.D. Minister of State at the Department of Health and Children launched a new teenage anti-smoking campaign by the Eastern Regional Health Authority. The campaign was a multi-media campaign and encouraged young girls in



particular to quit smoking. The campaign took place from May 22<sup>nd</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup> 2000. Figures show that 80% of all smokers become addicted between 14 and 16 years of age indicating the necessity to prevent teenagers from starting to smoke and to help them quit if they have already started. The campaign included advertisements on television, buses and Dart stations and aims to help girl smokers live life without cigarettes and notice the difference.

#### **8. *Inter country Adoptions***

The South Western Area Health Board has regional responsibility for inter country adoptions on behalf of the three area boards. Our Board's Assistant Chief Executive has recently met with representatives of the International Adoption Association to discuss measures for reducing delays in assessments for inter country adoptions. The Association was advised that

- There is a commitment to the U.C.D. report on inter country adoptions commissioned by the Department of Health and Children.
- Our Board is awaiting a national training package which is being arranged by the national implementation group, in addition, BAAF (British Association of Adoption and Fostering) has been commissioned to produce a guide for practitioners.
- There has been extensive advertising in the national press and on the inter-net to recruit social workers including part-time and sessional workers.
- Performance indicators have been advised by the Department of Health and Children and implemented by our Board which will maximise out-put.
- The Board will relocate the inter country adoption assessment service which will facilitate more office based work increasing the availability of social work time for interviewing applicants and reducing time spent on travel.
- The U.C.D. report also reinforces the view that it is a social work task to carry out assessments.
- The post placement report informs the second assessment but cannot replace it. A protocol with regard to second assessments suggested by the I.A.A. was taken on board in carrying out second assessment.

It is hoped that these measures will significantly reduce delays in inter country assessments.

#### **9. *Forum on Fluoridation***

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2000 in which Mr Micheál Martin, Minister for Health and Children, announced details of a Forum on Fluoridation. The Forum comprises persons with expert knowledge spanning the areas of public health, dental health, food safety, environmental protection, ethics of fluoridation, water quality, health promotion and representatives from the consumer and environmental areas. The terms of reference of the Forum are to review the fluoridation of public piped water supplies and the programme of research being undertaken on behalf of health boards in the area and to make a report to the Minister.

#### **10. *Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance Scheme***

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of Circular 06/00 from the Department of Social Community and Family Affairs dated 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2000 which announces that the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance Scheme will operate again this year between 1<sup>st</sup> June and 30<sup>th</sup> September. The rate of payment is increasing this year by £20 per child.

### ***11. Direct Provision for asylum seekers***

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of Circular 05/00 from the Department of Social Community and Family Affairs dated 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2000 which gives further details on Direct Provision for all asylum seekers which has been introduced by the Directorate for Asylum Seekers Services of the Department of Justice Equality and Law Reform.

### ***12. Consultant Appointments – Naas General Hospital***

Our Board has been notified by Comhairle na nOspideal of its approval to the following consultant joint appointments structured between Naas General Hospital and the Adelaide and Meath Hospitals incorporating the National Children's Hospital Tallaght:-

- Consultant General Physician (with special interest in gastroenterology): South Western Area Health Board to be based at Naas General Hospital - 8 sessions per week and Tallaght Hospital - 3 sessions per week. This is a new post.
- Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon under Tallaght Hospital - 8 sessions per week and the South Western Area Health Board - 3 sessions per week at Naas General Hospital for outpatient clinics and ward consultation. This is a new post.
- Consultant General Surgeon (with a special interest in coloproctology): South Western Area Health Board to be based at Naas General Hospital - 6 sessions per week and Tallaght Hospital - 5 sessions per week. This is a new post.
- Restructuring of existing post of Consultant General Surgeon held by Mr. B Hargan as a joint appointment between the South Western Area Health Naas General Hospital - 7 sessions per week and Tallaght Hospital - 4 sessions per week.

### ***13. Name of Joint Standing Committee***

I would suggest to the Board that the name of the Episodic Illness and Primary Care Committee be changed to the Primary Care and Acute Services Committee.

## **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

### **Name of Joint Standing Committee**

The name change suggested at **13.** above was agreed.

### **Cluster of severe unexplained illness among injecting drug users and National Drugs Strategy**

There was a broad discussion on the cluster of severe unexplained illness among injecting drug users and the review of the National Drugs Strategy to which Sen. S. O Fearghail, Cllr. E. Byrne, Cllr. J. Reilly, Cllr. T. Cullen, Cllr. D. Tipping, Ald. M. Mooney, Dr. S Barry, Dr. K. Harkin and Ms. M. Hoban contributed. In response the Chief Executive stated that:

- The three Area Health Boards and the E.R.H.A. are currently working together to implement a number of measures to prevent further cases of the illness.
- Board members can be involved in the review process in June and there will be a Standing Committee meeting on the subject in July.
- To date forty four additional places have been provided by Trinity Court, twenty two places in respect of the South Western Health Board Area.

### **National Development Plan**

Following a discussion on our Board's proposed developments under this plan to which Mr. G. Brady, Cllr. D. Tipping and Cllr. T. Cullen contributed the Chief Executive stated that a report on proposals for the South Western Area Health Board under the National Development Plan will be brought to the next meeting of the Primary Care and Acute Services Standing Committee for consideration and approval.

### **Consultant Appointments Naas General Hospital**

The approval of consultant appointments for Naas Hospital was welcomed by members. Mr. Seamus O'Brien, Assistant Chief Executive, indicated that these appointments were part of an overall package to meet current needs at that hospital and that all appointments would have linkages with the Adelaide and Meath Hospitals, incorporating the National Children's Hospital, Tallaght.

### **Forum on Fluoridation**

There was a discussion on the establishment of the Forum on Fluoridation to which Cllr. J. Reilly, Cllr. T. Cullen, and Dr. B. Murphy contributed. The Chief Executive stated that a report on orthodontic services outlining new developments and progress on waiting lists will be brought to a Standing Committee.

### **Anti-Smoking Campaign**

The Chief Executive stated that a health promotion manager will be appointed to our Board who will implement a more extensive anti-smoking campaign.

### **Inter- country Adoptions**

Discussion took place regarding inter-country adoptions to which Sen. T. Ridge and Sen. S. O Fearghail contributed, following which Ms. B. Clarke gave further details to members on procedures in place to reduce delays in assessment for inter-country adoptions. Ms. Clarke agreed to provide members with details of measures taken.

## **39/2000**

### **ELECTION OF FINANCE/PROPERTY COMMITTEE– REPORT NO. 17/2000**

Report No. 17/2000 [copy filed with official minute] outlining details regarding the establishment of the Finance/Property Committee was presented by the Chief Executive. It was proposed that as the Chairman and Vice Chairman are ex-officio members of the committee that the remaining membership would comprise:-

- A core group of 6 members who shall serve for the full five year term of office
- A rotating group of 4 members who shall change each year and be appointed at our Board's Annual Meeting

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman to be elected at the first meeting of the committee.

The composition of the committee as outlined above and membership was agreed as follows:-

#### **Permanent Members (6)**

Cllr. M. Mooney  
Sen. T. Ridge  
Cllr. J. Wall  
Mr. P. Aspell  
Mr. M. Murphy  
Dr. S. Barry

#### **Rotation (4)**

Cllr. M. Miley  
Cllr. C. Byrne  
Cllr. E. Byrne  
Ms. M. Hoban

#### **Ex-officio (2)**

Cllr. C. O'Connor  
Cllr. J. Reilly

**40/2000****PROFILE OF THE POPULATION OF THE SOUTH WESTERN AREA HEALTH BOARD**

Mr. Pat Bennett, Assistant Chief Executive (Planning and Development) made a presentation incorporating powerpoint slides [copy filed with official minute] of the population profile of the South Western Area Health Board.

Mr. Bennett was thanked for his presentation but, due to pressure of time, discussion and questions on the presentation were deferred to the next meeting of the Board.

Cllr. D. Tipping requested that, since our Board's Headquarters is outside the Dublin Area, a 1 800/1 850 number should facilitate calls to Headquarters by clients from the Dublin area. The Chief Executive agreed to investigate the feasibility of same.

**41/2000****PROGRESS REPORT FROM JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE**

The progress report from the Joint Standing Committee Episodic & Primary Care, and Community Services & Continuing Care was noted.

**42/2000****SCHEDULE OF VISITS FOR BOARD MEMBERS (JUNE/JULY 2000)**

The schedule of visits for Board Members for June and July 2000 which was circulated with the agenda papers was noted by members.

It was agreed following a suggestion from Cllr. J. Reilly that future schedules for visits will be for a one month period.

**43/2000****REPORT OF THE PROTOCOL AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE**

It was agreed that, due to pressure of time, this item would be deferred to the July Board meeting.

**44/2000****NOTICES OF MOTION**

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. T. Cullen and seconded by Cllr. M. Miley:

“That the South Western Area Health Board would build a health centre in the village of Stratford-on-Slaney, Co. Wicklow, which also covers Grangecon village and townlands as these are fast growing areas of population without any local health clinic services.”

The following members contributed to the discussion Cllr. T. Cullen, Cllr. M. Miley, Dr. Siobhan Barry and Cllr. E. Byrne.

The Chief Executive stated that before our Board prioritises capital developments, feasibility studies should be conducted. It was agreed that such a study for the Stratford-on-Slaney area will be conducted. Cllr. E. Byrne suggested establishing a mechanism to streamline requests for health centre developments.

**45/2000**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Items of correspondence, as referred to in the Chief Executive's Report, were noted.

**46/2000**

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next monthly Board meeting will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2000, at 2.00 p.m. in St. Vincent's Hospital, Athy, Co Kildare.

**The meeting concluded at 4.25 p.m.**

**CORRECT:**

**P. DONNELLY  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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**CHAIRMAN**