

1st May, 2002

Do gach Comhalta den mBord

A Chara,

The monthly meeting of the Northern Area Health Board will be held in **The Boardroom, Northern Area Health Board Headquarters, Unit B, Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin on Thursday 16th May, 2002, at 5.00pm.** Tea is arranged for 4.30 pm.

Hereunder is the agenda.

Mise, le meas,

M. Windle

PRIOMH FEIDHMEANNACH

CLAR

1. Chairmans Business
2. Minutes of proceedings of
 - (i) Monthly Board Meeting held on 18th April, 2002 (copy herewith)
 - (a) Matters arising
 - (ii) Special Board Meeting held on 22nd April, 2002 (copy herewith)
 - (a) Matters arising
3. Questions to the Chief Executive
4. Chief Executive's Report
5. Report from Finance & Property Committee (Meeting held 30th April, 2002)
(Report No F4 attached)
6. Report on Services for the Elderly
(Report No 19/2002 to be circulated)
7. St. Joseph's Hospital, Raheny : Draft Site Development Plan
(Report No 20/2002 attached)
8. Fingal Development Board's Strategy 2002 - 2011
(Report No 21/2002 attached)

- 9 Report – NAHB – Properties Purchased / Leased
(*Report No 22/2002 attached*)
10. Report from Standing Committees
 - (a) Community Services and Continuing Care
 - (b) Acute Hospitals and Primary Care
11. Motions

11.1 Cllr M O'Donovan

“That the Chief Executive arrange for the Board’s property on Church Ave, Blanchardstown to be secured and kept tidy while our plans to make use of the house are being finalised”.

12. Matters for Mention

NORTHERN AREA HEALTH BOARD

**Minutes of proceedings of monthly Board Meeting
of the Northern Area Health Board held in the
Boardroom NAHB Headquarters, Swords Business Campus
Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin
On Thursday, 16th May, 2002, at 5.00pm**

Members in Attendance

Cllr. C Burke
Cllr I Callely
Mr M Cowley
Cllr L Creaven
Ms N Harvey
Dr Marie Laffoy
Cllr E O'Brien
Cllr M O'Donovan
Mr G McGuire

Non-Voting Participants

Dr B Murphy

In the Chair

Cllr. Anne Devitt

Apologies

Cllr Dr D Fitzpatrick
Cllr D Murray

Officers in Attendance

Ms M. Windle, Chief Executive
Mr M. Walsh, Asst, Chief Executive
Mr J. Cahill, Asst Chief Executive
Mr P. Dunne, Asst Chief Executive
Ms A Kerrigan, Asst Chief Executive
Ms M. Kelly, Director of Human Resources
Ms J Ebbs, Operations
Mr S McGrath, Communications
Ms K Fagan, Secretariat
Ms M O'Sullivan, Secretariat.

51/2002

CHAIRMANS BUSINESS

1. Condolences

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

2. Schedule of Meetings/Visits

A copy of schedule of forthcoming meetings/visits has been circulated to all members.

May I draw members particular attention to the following :-

- Finance & Property Committee Meeting
Wednesday 22nd May, 2002 at 12.00noon
- The launch of Healthy Eating Week in our Board's area, at 10.00am on Friday 24th May, 2002
- The visit to the Cemetary at St. Ita's Hospital as requested at the last Board Meeting, on Monday 24th June, 2002 at 11.00am

3. General Election

I would like to take this opportunity to convey my best wishes to members of this Board, who have put themselves forward in tomorrows General Election:-

Ald Dep I Callely,
Senator Dr D Fitzpatrick
Deputy R Shortall
Cllr D Heney

4. Fingal Development Strategy 2002 – 2011

I note that the Fingal Development Strategy 2002 – 2011 has been circulated with papers for this meeting. As Chairman of the Fingal County Development Board, I wish to thank all who contributed to this strategy, including officials from this Board, who contributed at both Board and Committee / Working Group level.

It was proposed that the A G M of our Board would be held in early July, to facilitate and accommodate members leave arrangements. This was agreed.

52/2002

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

held on 18th April, 2002

On a proposal by Cllr A Devitt and seconded by Cllr D Murray, the minutes of the Board Meeting held on 18th April, 2002 were agreed.

53/2002

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

held on 22nd April, 2002

On a proposal by Cllr C Burke and seconded by Cllr M. O'Donovan, the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on 22nd April, 2002 were agreed.

54/2002

QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

On a proposal by Cllr Devitt and seconded by Cllr E O'Brien, it was agreed to answer the questions lodged.

1. Cllr C. Burke

“To ask the Chief Executive if she would outline to this Board all of the services planned for the new Quarry Road Health Centre”

Reply

The planned refurbishment at Cabra Health Centre, Quarry Road, will provide improved accommodation for these services currently delivered from this location. The additional space being provided will improve the quality of customer service, and provide improved staff accommodation at this Centre.

Refurbishment will cost in the region of €1m and is expected to be completed by February, 2003.

The following services will be provided at Quarry Road Health Centre:-

- Public Health Nursing Services
- Area Medical Officer Services
- Community Welfare Services
- Dental Services
- Social Work Services
- Occupational Therapy Services
- Customer Services

2. Cllr C Burke

“To ask the Chief Executive if she would put on public display in Cabra the proposed plans for the Quarry Road Health Centre”

Reply

The plans for the development of Quarry Road Health Centre have been on public display at the centre since April. Arrangements were also made to facilitate a meeting on Friday 17th May, 2002 between the Project Architect, the Engineering Officer and members of the local community who may wish to raise any questions or concerns.

3. Cllr C Burke

“To ask the Chief Executive what plans the Northern Area Health Board have for the Summerhill Health Centre”

Reply

Summerhill Health centre is one of two Health Centre servicing the North East Inner City Sector of Area 7.

A new state of the art Primary Health Care Unit costing €20 million is planned as part of the Civic Centre Development on Sean McDermott Street which will provide an extensive range of health and social services to the community of the North East inner city. The plans for the Civic Centre have been finalised and negotiations are currently taking place with all the Public Service agencies as regard to the funding of the development.

The Northern Area Health Board has identified this project as one of its priorities in Primary Care development. It is envisaged, subject to agreement between all state agencies and funding being in place, that planning permission will be applied for in June 2002 and construction would commence early 2003 with the Centre due to be completed in mid 2004.

Future plans for Summerhill Health Centre will be considered in the context of the Sean McDermott Street Development and health care infrastructure needs of the sector.

55/2002
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
SERVICE MATTERS

Back-to-School Clothing & Footwear Allowance Scheme, 2002

The Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs have advised that the Back-to-School Clothing and Footwear Scheme will operate in parallel with the Supplementary Welfare Allowance scheme during 2002, as in previous years.

This scheme is administered by our Board's Community Welfare Officers, in accordance with guidelines laid down by the Department of Social Community and Family Affairs.

It should be noted that both the rates of payment and the income limits have been increased for 2002.

The revised rates of payment are (2001 rates in brackets):-

€80 (€80) where the child is 2 – 11 years on 30/0/2002
€120 (€99) where the child is 12 or older on 30/9/2002

The income limit for 2002 are (2001 rates in brackets):-

	Couple with	Last Year	Lone Parent with
1 Child	€14.70	(€246.84)	1 Child €16.40 (€157.45)
2 Children	€34.00	(€266.14)	2 Children €238.00 (€179.03)
3 Children	€53.30		3 Children €259.60
	Increased by €19.30 for each additional Child (€19.30)		Increased by €21.60 for each additional child (€21.60)

A total of 19,703 persons in the ERHA area received payments under this scheme in 2001, amounting to a total of €3,544,695. It is anticipated, with the increased income limits introduced this year, that the number of eligible persons under this scheme will increase.

Arrangements are in place that all those who received a payment under this scheme in 2001 will receive an application form by post in early June.

Health & Safety at Work Act

I have circulated for members information a copy of our Board's "Safety Statement" drawn up in accordance with the Health & Safety at Work Act. Our Board is committed to meeting all of its obligations under this legislation, within the resources allocated, in providing our staff with safe place and methods of work.

An official launch of this "Safety Statement" will be held in the new future.

Breast Check – North Inner City Uptake

I wish to advise members that the overall uptake rate for “Breast Check” Programme for our Board’s area was 72%. The overall uptake for the North Inner City, following two rounds of screening was 59% of the target population. This compares favourably with an uptake of 46% following the first round of screening.

It is felt that to reach an uptake rate of 70% for this service in the North Inner City would require the utilisation of a mobile unit in strategic locations.

Inter-Country Adoption

I have circulated, for member’s information, an up-date on the Inter-Country Adoption Service. I wish to advise that despite difficulties in the recruitment of Social Workers generally, that 2 additional Social Workers have been assigned to this service in April, 2002.

I have also circulated the following for the members information

- (a) “Standardised Framework for Inter-Country Adoption Assessment” Procedure
- (b) Understanding the Assessment “Process”

PRESS RELEASES

Changes to Work Visa Scheme

I have circulated this evening, copy of press release, dated 7th May, 2002, from the Tanaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Mary Harney, and the Minister for Health & Children, Micheal Martin, announcing that the Work Visa Scheme is being extended to facilitate the recruitment into the Irish Public Health Services of overseas nationals with expertise in the Medical, Health and Social Care sectors including

Medical Practitioner, Dentist, Diagnostic or Therapeutic Radiographer, Dietician, Occupational Therapist, Orthoptist, Medical Physicist, Psychologist, Speech & Language Therapist, Social Worker, Medical Scientist, Physiotherapist, Hospital Pharmacist, ECG Technician, Neurophysiological Measurement Technician, Cardiac Catheterisation Technician, Audiologist, Biochemist

The new arrangements are intended to help address shortages of professional medical, health and social care staff in the Public Health Service and hence support the delivery of the Health Strategy.

Prime Time Programme

I have circulated for this meeting, copy of correspondence from Mr Stephen McGrath, A/Director of Communications, to Mr Bob Collins, Director General of RTE, in response to the Prime Time Programme, broadcast on Tuesday May 7th 2002, which

featured an item on Services for Persons with Intellectual Disability at St. Ita's Hospital.

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Following discussion to which Cllr Burke, Cllr O'Brien, Cllr Devitt, Cllr Creaven and Mr McGuire contributed, and to which the Chief Executive and Director of Communications responded, the report was noted.

The members complimented the Director of Communication on the response to R.T.E.'s Prime Time programme, which portrayed St. Ita's Hospital in a negative manner.

It was agreed to bring a report on the Emergency Accommodation Placement Service provided by our Board's Community Welfare Service on an agency basis for the Local Authorities, to a future meeting of our Board.

56/2002
Report F4/2002

On a proposal by Cllr Creaven, seconded by Cllr O'Donovan, Report No F4/2002, from the Finance & Property Committee meeting of 30th April, 2002, was agreed and adopted.

57/2002
Report No 19/2002 - Services for the Elderly

On a proposal by Cllr Devitt, seconded by Cllr Burke, Report No 19/2002, Services for the Elderly was adopted.

58/2002
Report No 20/2002 – St. Joseph's Hospital, Raheny, Draft Site Development Plan

A draft development plan for St. Joseph's Hospital, Raheny, was introduced by the Chief Executive. It was agreed to refer the report to the Standing Committee for Acute Hospitals and Primary Care Standing Committee and to bring an up-date to the next monthly meeting of our Board.

59/2002
Report No 21/2002 – Fingal Development Board's Strategy 2002 – 2011

The Fingal Development Board Strategy 2002 – 2011, was noted

60/2002
Report No 22/2002 – NAHB Properties Purchased / Leased

Report No 22/2002 NAHB Properties Purchased / Leased was introduced by the Chief Executive. Following discussions, to which Cllr Devitt, Cllr Burke, Mr Murphy,

Cllr Creaven, Mr McGuire and Ms Harvey contributed, and to which the Chief Executive and Asst Chief Executive, Special Projects responded, the report was noted.

61/2002

PROGRESS REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

- (i) No meeting held – no quorum present**
- (ii) Acute Hospitals and Primary Care Standing Committee**

On a proposal by Cllr Devitt and seconded by Cllr O'Donovan, the report from the Acute Hospitals and Primary Care Standing Committee was agreed. The following matters were dealt with in the report :-

1. *Implications of Joint Oireachtas Committee Report on Orthodontic Services Report No. 11/2002*

Ms. Kerrigan gave an overview of the above report to members of the Committee.

Members thanked Ms. Kerrigan for the report.

Before taking any questions, it was agreed to present the 2nd report with questions and answers afterwards.

2. *Orthodontic Services Progress Report*

Ms. Kerrigan presented report to Members of the Committee.

Members thanked Ms. Kerrigan for the report.

Issues raised by Members:

- When will there be evident improvements in the waiting lists.
- Is there a provision in the Treatment Purchase Fund to fund Orthodontic treatment.
- What timeframe is set for the advertisement of Consultants in the LRC.
- When validation is completed what steps are then taken.
- Requests for additional information in future reports on orthodontics was detailed.

Ms. Kerrigan advised Members:

- Capital Funding has been approved for a temporary Orthodontic Unit at Blanchardstown Business Park by the Eastern Regional Health Authority.

- Follow up with Ms. Sheila Marshall regarding a response received by the Board from the Child Care Advisory Committee regarding correspondence to the Minister via the Child Care Advisory Committee regarding the Private Treatment Fund.
- The advertisement for Consultants will be taking place the following week in the LRC.
- Revenue funding is still in negotiation in regards to the temporary Orthodontic Unit at Blanchardstown Business Park.
- 3,500 letters have gone out to patients (1995 – 1999) and on that 50% have responded of which 80% responded positively, this will determine the basis of the actual number of patients to assess.

62/2002

MOTION

11.1 The motion in the name of Cllr M O'Donovan, was noted

Cllr M O'Donovan

“That the Chief Executive arrange for the Board’s property on Church Ave, Blanchardstown to be secured and kept tidy while our plans to make use of the house are being finalised”.

Reply

The Northern Area Health Board has acquired 1 Church Ave, Blanchardstown to provide a medium support community facility in the Blanchardstown Area. The house has been examined by our Technical Services Department and work will commence shortly to ensure it complies with fire, health and safety standards. We have met with local representative who were in agreement with the development.

Our Architect has recommended a phased approach to this project with provision for the first four patients as phase one in the new section of the house. The Architect has applied for a Fire Certificate for this development (See map attached). The scheduled completion date for phase one is August/September 2002.

In the interim to protect the property, we have fitted a burglar alarm and arranged for a security firm to give call-out cover.

Work has been completed on the front garden including the spraying of weeds with weed-killer and a general tidy-up.

We will maintain a good outside appearance on the house pending the commencement of the building work and will keep the local residents informed.

**M. WINDLE,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

16th May, 2002

**ANN DEVITT
CHAIRMAN**