

**EASTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY**  
**Minutes of proceedings of Board Meeting**  
**held in the Boardroom, Dr Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8**  
**on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2002 at 18:00**

Dr. Siobhan Barry  
Cllr. Christy Burke  
Cllr. Laurence Butler  
Cllr. Eric Byrne  
Cllr. Maria Corrigan  
Mr. Martin Cowley  
Cllr. Liam Creaven  
Cllr. Tommy Cullen  
Cllr. Anne Devitt  
Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne  
Mr. John Dolan  
Cllr. Pat Doran  
Cllr. Andrew Doyle  
Mr. Joe Fallon  
Cllr. Dermot Fitzpatrick  
Cllr. James Reilly  
Cllr. Don Tipping

Cllr. Tony Fox  
Ms. Ann Harris  
Ms. Noeleen Harvey  
Cllr. Deirdre Heney  
Ms. Maria Hoban  
Mr. Larry Tuomey  
Mr. Paul Ledwidge  
Cllr. Colm McGrath  
Cllr. Martin Miley  
Dr. Bernard Murphy  
Mr. Michael Murphy  
Cllr. Eamonn O'Brien  
Cllr. Dr. William O'Connell  
Cllr. Charles O'Connor  
Mrs. Catherine Quinn  
Cllr. Therese Ridge

***In the Chair***

Alderman Joe Doyle

***Apologies***

Dr. Ray Hawkins

***In Attendance***

Mr. Donal O Shea, Ms. Angela Fitzgerald, Mr. Jim Breslin, Mr. Martin Devine, Ms. Maureen Browne, Dr. Siobhan Jennings, Mr. Alistair Graham, Ms. Helen Stokes, Ms. Aileen Hassett.

## **10/02/85 Chairman's Business**

### *Agenda item No. 1*

The Chairman expressed the sympathy of the members of the Board to Ms. Maureen Windle, Chief Executive Officer of the Northern Area Health Board on the recent death of her mother.

### **Details of Forthcoming Meetings**

- The next meeting of the Continuing Care Committee is scheduled for Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> October in the Boardroom, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8 at 11am. The Agenda will include a report on Peer Advocacy in Mental Health Services.
- The next meeting of the Finance and Property Committee is scheduled for Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 10:30am in the Board Room in Dr Steeven's Hospital.
- The next meeting of the Acute Hospital and Primary Care Committee is scheduled for Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> October in the Boardroom, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8, at 6pm. Items for discussion at this meeting will include Out of Hours Dental Services and Cardiac Catheter Laboratory.
- The Special Meeting of the Board to consider the 2003 Service Plan is re-scheduled to Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> October in the Boardroom, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8, at 6pm.
- The next meeting of the ERHA Board is scheduled for Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> November, in the Boardroom, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8.

## **10/02/86 Minutes of Previous Meetings**

### *Agenda item No. 2*

The draft minutes of the Special Meetings of the Board to review the implementation of the Service Plan held on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July and the 19<sup>th</sup> of September, and of the September meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2002 (copy appended to the official minute) having been circulated, were proposed for adoption by Cllr. Eric Byrne, seconded by Cllr. Anne Devitt and agreed.

**3.1      Dr Siobhan Barry**

**Re: Report of the Inspector of Mental Hospitals for the year  
ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2001:**

Could the CEO outline the steps the ERHA will take to address the “imbalances and discrepancies in the relationship between different populations and funding arrangements” specific to the ERHA (page 19) referred to in the above Report?

**Reply**

It is acknowledged that differences in service provision may arise both as between catchment areas and, on a wider basis, between Area Health Boards. An important objective in the planning process is the achievement of increased equity between areas within the region in the provision of, and access to, services and facilities. Addressing such inequities requires examination of both the distribution of current resources and the targeting of development resource. The Area Health Boards have a central role in organising the distribution of current resources between catchment areas in their geographic areas so as to alleviate inequities in service availability. The presence of traditional, institutional models of service provision in some catchment areas also provides opportunities to reconfigure the utilisation of resources around prevailing models of best practice. However, it is acknowledged that in some catchment areas there is not the potential to reconfigure resources based on a move from an institutional model to a more community-based one. In such cases new resources afford opportunity to target development in areas of greatest need where gaps in service provision, through growth in the population or lack of traditional funding, are apparent.

An audit of actual services provided and resourced at the end of 2002 is currently being planned. This will provide an up to date baseline assessment of differences in service availability between areas. Discussion on the geographic equity of health service provision must also take into account differences in the needs of areas. Differences in demographic factors, standards of living and incidence of illnesses arise between areas. Consequently, it is not the case that an uneven geographic distribution of resources necessarily reflects inequity. Areas with relatively high levels of resources may require these to cater for particularly high levels of need. There is substantial evidence which links socio-demographic factors and psychiatric morbidity. There tends to be a greater use of, and need for, psychiatric services in deprived areas. There is broad acceptance of the conclusion that data on deprivation can be used as an indicator of potential demand for psychiatric services and such indices are used to assess relative need across the

region. In addition, specific needs assessments of defined populations are being undertaken, e.g. the consumer survey being conducted by Monitoring & Evaluation.

It should be noted that some of the variation in facilities and services between areas is due to the legacy of the old institutional system. For example, areas, which had large psychiatric hospitals such as Catchment Area 6, tend to have a high level of community hostels as the de-institutionalisation process resulted in former in-patients being relocated to hostels in the local area. Consequently, the need for hostel places evolved not from the 'natural' catchment population but from the presence of large numbers of in-patients from within the region.

In conclusion, addressing inequities in the availability and quality of services is a key consideration in the commissioning process. All resources – both new and existing – form part of this process. Judgement regarding the degree of equity in resource allocation does require well developed measures of need and account needs to be taken of particular historic factors influencing the demand for services in an area.

### **3.2 Dr Siobhan Barry**

#### **Re: Tallaght Hospital Stroke Service, described in the ERHA CEO Report of June 2001**

Could the CEO update the Authority on this initiative, which was “developed to deal with the approximately 200 stroke cases admitted per annum”?

#### **Reply**

The ERHA as part of its Review of the Implementation of the Ten Year Action Plan for Older Persons identified the limited availability of stroke services within the East, both in acute and community facilities. It also recognised the significant input of the stroke service in Tallaght Hospital in meeting the needs of the population in South West Dublin.

The Authority has decided to invest in the development of stroke services across the region and to this aim has funded an increase in stroke care related beds from 10 (Tallaght) to 46 (Mater 6, Royal Hospital Donnybrook 12, James Connolly Memorial, 6, St Mary's Hospital 12) in 2002.

Significant investment has been made in these services to ensure that specialist stroke care is available in a range of centres. As part of this investment an additional €100,000 was allocated to Tallaght to fund the expansion of the service there.

### **3.3 Dr Kieran Harkin**

#### **Re: Clinical Psychology in the ERHA**

Could the CEO advise if the funding agreed for the training of 12 trainee clinical psychologists who were selected and who expected to start the Clinical Psychology Training Course in TCD in October 2002 is now to be withdrawn? If this funding is indeed to be withdrawn could the CEO please make a statement with reference to the documented shortage of Clinical Psychologists as per the HSEA/Impact Joint Review Document, March 2002?

#### **Reply**

Investigation of this matter has established that the Northern Area Health Board has responsibility for this matter. That Board has been liaising with Trinity College Dublin on the issue of support for the Clinical Psychology Training Course there. The Board has been requested to give us full information on this issue as soon as possible.

#### **10/02/88 Report No 23/02 –Commentary by the Director of Public Health on the Forum on Fluoridation**

*Agenda item no. 5*

Dr. Marie Laffoy, the Director of Public Health circulated her commentary on the Forum on Fluoridation (copy attached to the official minute).

There followed a discussion to which the following members contributed : Cllr Eric Byrne, Dr. Bernard Murphy, Cllr. Colm McGrath, Dr. James Reilly, Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne, Cllr. Andrew Doyle. The following issues were raised :

- (1) The monitoring of the levels of fluoridation in the water supply
- (2) The presence of fluoride in manufactured drinks such as mineral waters and beer.

Dr. Laffoy advised members that the Forum on Fluoridation conducted the study over a period of two years and that there had been public consultation in the preparation of the report. She said that the Forum concluded that there was no evidence to suggest that there were any negative effects regarding the consumption of fluoride. Dr. Laffoy also stated that she was not aware whether drinks companies extracted fluoride from their beverages during the processing stage.

Dr. Laffoy stated that the level of fluoride was monitored on a daily basis and that this was a normal precaution.

***On the proposal of Cllr. Eric Byrne, seconded by Cllr. Colm McGrath, Report No. 23/02 was noted.***

**10/02/89 Report No. 24/02 - Regional Customer Satisfaction Survey –  
Commentary by the Director of Corporate Services**

*Agenda Item No. 6*

Mr. Martin Devine, Director of Corporate Services gave a presentation on the Regional Customer Satisfaction Survey (copy attached to the official minute).

There followed a debate to which the following members contributed : Dr. Siobhan Barry, Dr. James Reilly, Mr. John Dolan, Mr. Martin Cowley, Cllr. Anne Devitt, Ms. Marie Hoban, Ms. Anne Harris and Dr. Barney Murphy. Members sought clarification about the conduct of the survey and the publication of the report.

Mr. Martin Devine, Director of Corporate Services, stated that the survey was carried out in the month of August and that the company carrying out the research had advised that the time of year would not affect the outcome. He advised that the report would be published in the near future and that there would be a detailed breakdown of figures and percentages pertaining to social class, income groups etc.

Mr. Devine undertook to circulate a copy of the report to the members and the agencies when published.

***On the proposal of Dr. Barney Murphy seconded by Ms. Anne Harris Report No. 24/02 was noted.***

**10/02/90 Report No. 25/02 - Report on Mortality in the Eastern Region 1994-1998**

*Agenda Item No. 7*

Dr. Siobhan Jennings presented Report No. 24/02 – Mortality in the Eastern region 1994-1998 (copy appended to the official minute).

There followed a discussion to which the following members contributed: Cllr. Eric Byrne, Cllr. Anne Devitt, Mr. John Dolan, Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne, Mr. Martin Cowley, Cllr. Larry Butler and Cllr. Deirdre Heney. Members noted the importance of working in conjunction with the local authorities, sports organisations etc. to highlight healthier lifestyles. They also expressed concern about the impact of alcohol on health.

***On a proposal by Cllr Eric Byrne seconded by Cllr. Anne Devitt, Report No. 24/02 on Mortality in the Eastern Region 1994-1998 was noted by the members.***

**10/02/91 Chief Executive's Report**

*Agenda Item No. 8*

The Chief Executive's Report (copy appended to the official minute) was circulated. The report dealt with the following items:

- Recommendations from the Acute Hospitals and Primary Care Committee

- Survey of Services for Young Chronic Disabled
- Cancer in Men
- National Treatment Purchase Fund Update
- Service Developments at The Royal Hospital Donnybrook
- Stimulant Drinks
- Update on Youth Homelessness – Implementation of Action Plan
- New Appointments in the Region
- Reports received
- Expiry of term of Office of the Chief Executive of the ERHA.

Dr. Marie Laffoy, Director of Public Health updated the members on the impact of the SRSV (Winter Vomiting Bug) on services in the Region.

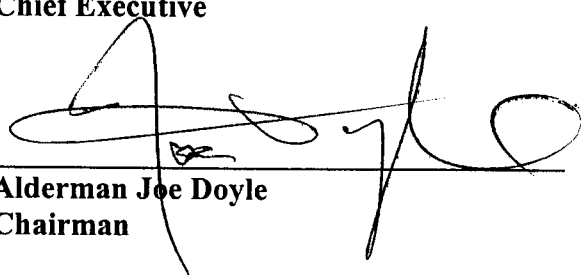
*On a proposal by Cllr Eric Byrne and seconded by Cllr Laurence Butler it was agreed that the Chief Executive ask the Local Appointments Commission to commence the process of selection of his successor.*

**10/02/93      Date & Time of Next Meeting**  
**Agenda Item No. 9**

The date and time for the next meeting was agreed for Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2002 at 18:00 in the Board Room, Dr. Steevens' Hospital.

The meeting concluded at 20:15hrs.

**CORRECT**  
**Donal O Shea**  
**Chief Executive**

  
**Alderman Joe Doyle**  
**Chairman**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**



**EASTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY**  
**Minutes of proceedings of Special Board Meeting – Mid Year Review**  
**held in Woodenbridge Hotel, Woodenbridge, Co Wicklow**  
**on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2002 at 10:00am**

*Present*

Mr. Paddy Aspell	Mr. Paul Ledwidge
Dr. Siobhan Barry	Cllr. Colm McGrath
Cllr. Christy Burke	Mr. Gerry McGuire
Mr. Martin Cowley	Cllr. Martin Miley
Cllr. Liam Creaven	Ald. Mary Mooney
Cllr. Tommy Cullen	Dr. Bernard Murphy
Cllr. Jane Dillon-Byrne	Mr. Michael Murphy
Mr. John Dolan	Cllr. Eamonn O'Brien
Cllr. Pat Doran	Cllr. Michael O'Donovan
Ald. Joe Doyle	Mrs. Catherine Quinn
Cllr. Andrew Doyle	Cllr. James Reilly
Mr. Joe Fallon	Dr. James Reilly
Cllr. Tony Fox	Cllr. Therese Ridge
Ms. Noeleen Harvey	Cllr. Don Tipping
Cllr. Deirdre Heney	
Ms. Maria Hoban	
Dr. Marie Laffoy	

*In the Chair*

Alderman Joe Doyle

*Apologies*

Cllr. Eric Byrne, Ms. Ann Harris, Cllr. Olivia Mitchell TD, Mr Larry Tuomey

*In Attendance*

Mr Pat McLoughlin, Mr. Martin Devine; Ms. Angela Fitzgerald; Mr. Liam Woods, Dr. Marie Laffoy, Mr. Dougie Beaton, Ms. Carol Ivory, Ms. Helen Stokes.



## MID-YEAR REVIEW OF THE SERVICE PLAN 2002

The Chairman, Alderman Joe Doyle opened the meeting and gave an outline of the programme for the day.

Mr Pat McLoughlin briefly outlined the process by which the Service Plan was agreed with the Department of Health and Children and explained the further process required of the Authority to enter into an agreement with the provider agencies for the provision of services. He referred to the motion passed by the Board at its meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2002 and advised members that an administrative arrangement by which the provider planning process could be completed earlier in the year was under discussion with the Chief Executive's Regional Forum.

He explained that while considerable money had been allocated for new developments much of the development is scheduled to take place in the latter half of the year. He advised members that in light of the government decision that 320 posts are not to be filled across the region, it was expected that a revised letter of determination would issue which would be brought to the Board at its September meeting.

Mr McLoughlin also announced that the Department of Health and Children had approved the developed of 9 CNU's in the Region as public/private partnerships and that more detailed proposals would be brought to the Finance & Property Committee and the Board for consideration.

Ms Angela Fitzgerald, Director of Monitoring and Evaluation gave a presentation of the main points under each care group as detailed in the Mid Year Review Report (*copy appended to official minute*). Following the presentation of the main points relating to each care group, the members asked questions or raised items for discussion or clarification. The issues raised under each care group and the response by Mr Pat McLoughlin, Deputy Chief Executive are outlined below.

The following members contributed to the discussion:-

Dr S Barry, Alderman J Doyle, Cllr C Burke, Mr M Cowley, Cllr J Reilly, Cllr T Ridge, Cllr D Heney, Dr B Murphy, Ms N Harvey, Dr J Reilly, Ms M Hoban, Cllr J Dillon Byrne and Mr M Miley.

### Acute Hospitals

The issues raised by members were:-

- The impact of the absence of a "wet hostel" on the A & E service in the Mater Hospital
- It was suggested that HIPE data on the severity of illness should be presented with the data on admission and discharge rates
- The impact of the new census figures on service planning
- The development of minor injuries areas in A & E
- The variations in waiting times for x-ray services across the region.
- The increase in day case activity
- The appointment of A & E consultants

Pat McLoughlin addressed the points raised as follows:-

- He explained that the provision of a “wet hostel” is the responsibility of Dublin City Council with the support of the ERHA.
- He explained that the difficulty with showing HIPE data with activity figures is that the HIPE figures are generally about 18 months old when available and therefore it is not possible to compare contemporaneous data.
- He explained that the census figures had been anticipated in the planning for services but when the details of growth at the margins of the region or among particular age groupings were available any implications for service planning will be considered.
- With regard to the differences in waiting periods for x-rays he explained that this was linked to equipment and radiographer problems but that with accurate information relating to waiting times, it would be possible to make it available to the public and GPs so that people could be referred to places with least waiting times.
- All consultant posts have been sent to Comhairle for approval to fill the posts on a permanent basis.

#### Primary Care

The issues raised by members were:-

- Concern over the rise of diabetes in children and its consequent medical conditions
- Waiting times for access to speech therapists and orthodontic services
- The escalation in the cost of drugs and the costs of treating patients from outside the region
- The operation of GP out of hours services
- Access to services for patients with disabilities
- Education of patients about the management of their medical condition and/or medication

Pat McLoughlin addressed the issues raised as follows:-

- In respect of the orthodontic services, he explained that there had been an increase in capacity in the area boards and that additional orthodontists were being actively sought for the service. He also referred to the recruitment difficulties among the therapist grades and explained that an active recruitment programme to source people abroad interested in working in Ireland was in train.
- He advised members that interagency charging is not possible in relation to the costs associated with treating patients from outside the region. However this issue has been raised with the Department of Health and Children so that this will be reflected in the resource allocation to the region.
- Members were advised that Dr Marie Laffoy, Director of Public Health was in discussion with the Diabetes Federation in respect of early diabetes.
- He explained that the GP out of hours services will be evaluated against the criteria drawn up by the Department of Health and Children
- He agreed that mainstream services should cater for all patients including those with disabilities.

#### Services for Older Persons.

The issues raised by members were as follows:-

- The development of the Home Help service
- The delays in assessments for improvement grants

- The form filling required for elderly people in order to access day services.
- Readmission rates to hospitals from private nursing homes
- The age profile of people with disability in the community

Pat McLoughlin addressed the issues raised as follows:-

- The Review of Services for Older People adopted by the Board proposes a different way of delivering the services to older persons through a personal assistant service.
- The bureaucracy around forms and assessments was acknowledged and members were advised that work was ongoing with the Area Health Boards through the Directors of Services for Older Persons to reduce this to a minimum.
- The announcement by the Minister of approval for 9 CNU units to be provided in the Region will increase the capacity and variety of services available to older people in the region.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30pm and reconvened at 2:30pm. The Chairman asked Mr Liam Woods, Finance Director to present an overview of the financial situation for the Authority.

Liam Woods explained that the overview of the financial situation is in the context of its impact on the Service Plan. He emphasised that the Service Plan was adopted in the context of the requirement on the Authority to break even while maintaining the existing services and delivering as much of the developments as possible within that constraint. He then gave a presentation on the current position (*copy appended to the official minute*). This presentation included a report on the proposed reduction of determination relating to the non filling of 320 posts in the eastern region. Mr. Woods outlined the process through which the ERHA would proceed upon receipt of the letter anticipated from the Department of Health and Children. This included an internal process within ERHA to determine adjustments to the budget and employment level of each agency and communication with each of the 39 agencies relating to their position. This process is similar to that followed by the ERHA for all adjustments to the determination of the ERHA in the context of the delivery of the service plan.

Following the presentation the members asked questions or raised items for discussion or clarification. The following members contributed to the discussion:-

Dr S Barry, Mr M Murphy, Mr P Ledwidge, Ms N Harvey, Mr G McGuire, Mr M Cowley, Mr J Fallon, and the Chairman. The matters raised were:-

- Lack of clarity in respect of superannuation and outstanding pay awards for agencies providing services for persons with intellectual disability or mental health problems.
- Requirement to acknowledge the shortfall in core funding for these agencies
- The difficulties in obtaining capital funding
- The need to resolve issues outstanding for ID agencies since before the formation of ERHA
- Section 65 agencies not advised by Area Health Boards of their allocations
- The increasing cost of drugs and the decision making process in the use of these drugs.
- Need for clarification around the cost savings to be achieved from non-filling of posts in the region.
- The position in respect of the Harmon funding for ID agencies.

Mr Liam Woods and Mr Pat McLoughlin responded to the issues raised as follows:-

- One of the core roles of the ERHA is to advocate for resources to buy and develop services.
- Core issues are followed up on a daily basis with the Department of Health and Children, specifically in respect of superannuation and PRSI.
- The Provider Planning process is the mechanism by which service providers indicate the services that can be delivered within the resources provided. The Provider Plan is also the legal basis by which the Authority can give money to the provider agencies.
- At the beginning of the year a shortfall was identified in superannuation funding for the region and the Department of Health and Children requested the Authority to analyse the funding for superannuation across all the agencies in the region. Following this analysis it became clear some agencies which had indicated a shortfall in effect had a surplus of superannuation monies and that the shortfall related to other issues. The importance of accurate information to enable the Authority to advocate for resources from the Department of Health and Children was emphasised.
- The Board was advised that additional resources of €10m had been allocated to address outstanding pay.
- A review of the NDP was currently being carried out by the Department of Health and Children and no projects are being approved pending the outcome of the review.
- The matter of the outstanding Harmon funding was being pursued with the Department.

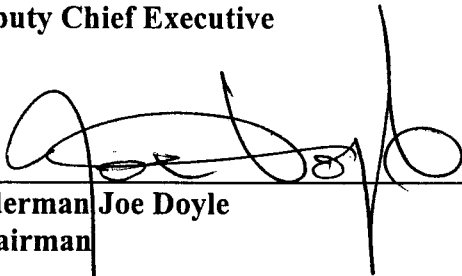
The Chairman closed the meeting and asked that as a number of items had not been reached in the course of the day that they be referred to the next meeting of the Board.

The meeting concluded at 16:30

**CORRECT**

**Pat McLoughlin**

**Deputy Chief Executive**

  
Alderman Joe Doyle  
Chairman

Date \_\_\_\_\_



**EASTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY**  
**Minutes of proceedings of Special Board Meeting**  
**Continuation of the Mid Year Review**  
**held in Dr Steevens' Hospital**  
**on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2002 at 6:00pm**

***Present***

Cllr. Christy Burke	Cllr. Deirdre Heney
Cllr. Laurence Butler	Mr. Paul Ledwidge
Cllr. Maria Corrigan	Cllr. Colm McGrath
Mr. Martin Cowley	Mr. Gerry McGuire
Cllr. Liam Creaven	Cllr. Martin Miley
Cllr. Tommy Cullen	Dr. Bernard Murphy
Mr. John Dolan	Cllr. Eamonn O'Brien
Cllr. Pat Doran	Cllr. Charles O'Connor
Ald. Joe Doyle	Cllr. Jim Reilly
Cllr. Andrew Doyle	Cllr. Therese Ridge
Mr. Joe Fallon	Cllr. Don Tipping
Cllr. Tony Fox	
Ms. Ann Harris	
Ms. Noeleen Harvey	

***In the Chair***

Alderman Joe Doyle

***Apologies***

Mr. Paddy Aspell, Dr. Siobhan Barry, Cllr. Eric Byrne, Cllr Jane Dillon-Byrne,  
Cllr. Dr Dermot Fitzpatrick T.D., Ms. Maria Hoban, Mr. Michael Murphy,  
Dr. Philip O'Connell, Cllr. Sean O'Fearghail TD, Dr. James Reilly,  
Mr. Larry Tuomey

***In Attendance***

Ms. Alice O'Flynn, Ms. Angela Fitzgerald, Mr. Pat McLoughlin, Mr. Liam Woods,  
Mr Martin Devine, Ms Sile Fleming, Ms. Maureen Browne, Ms. Mo Flynn,  
Ms. Derval Howley, Ms. Diane Nurse, Ms. Joanne FitzPatrick, Ms. Carol Ivory

**CONTINUATION OF THE MID-YEAR REVIEW OF THE SERVICE PLAN 2002**  
**from 31<sup>st</sup> July 2002**

The Chairman opened the meeting with a prayer

Ms Angela Fitzgerald, Director of Monitoring and Evaluation gave a presentation of the main points under each of the care groups as detailed in the Mid Year Review Report (*copy appended to official minute*). After the presentation of the main points relating to each care group, the following members asked questions or raised items for discussion or clarification: - Mr P Ledwidge, Mr M Cowley, Cllr T Ridge, Mr J Dolan, Cllr J Reilly, Cllr C Burke, Cllr M Corrigan, Mr G McGuire, Mr J Fallon and the Chairman.

The issues raised by members under each care group are listed below:-

Physical & Sensory Disability

- Access to services for patients with disabilities
- Recruitment difficulties

Intellectual Disability

- Acknowledgement of the investment made in the sector in 2000 and 2001.
- Lack of information on the waiting lists for residential services
- The increase in the nature and acuity of emergencies
- The Harmon monies
- Update on the report on challenging behaviour in those with Intellectual Disability.
- Places for those with acquired brain injury

Mental Health

- Particular difficulties with the services in the Northern Area
- Adolescent psychiatry
- The need to broaden the model of care for psychiatry.
- The significant population increase in the Kildare area with no increase in the number of psychiatric beds and the absence of step down facilities.
- The slow rate of progress in the development of Psychiatric services in the region.

Social Inclusion

- The Implementation of the Youth Homelessness Strategy.

Addiction Services - Opiate

- Dissatisfaction with waiting times for treatment
- The need for an increase in places for clients in the early stages of addiction.

- Outreach programmes should be implemented to follow up clients who do not turn up for appointments.

#### Addiction Services – Alcohol

- Development of prevention programmes

#### Children and Families

- Proposals for the treatment of the young chronic sick outside the acute hospitals

Ms Fitzgerald responded to the issues raised as follows:-

- It was agreed that the database was an important planning tool and it was accepted that due to difficulties in recruitment of Intellectual Disabilities database co-ordinators at area health board level there have been some gaps in the information in relation to those currently waiting for services. The regional co-ordinator has been working closely with the Area Boards and as the three Area Health Boards have now appointed database co-ordinators the Authority are confident that we are now in a position to use the database in our negotiations with the Department of Health and Children. The Area Health Board co-ordinators will also have responsibilities for Physical and Sensory disabilities database.
- Discussions are ongoing with the Department of Health and Children with respect to the situation regarding emergencies arising in the intellectual disabilities sector and the Department is fully briefed as to the extent of the costs and issues involved.
- Mr Liam Woods addressed the issue of the Harmonies and indicated that the Department of Health and Children was appraised of the scale of this issue. The ERHA continue to seek this resource as part of the planning process for 2003.
- In respect of the pilot programme for those with challenging behaviour and intellectual disabilities the South Western Area Health Board pilot is to commence this year and it is hoped to bring a progress report to the board before the end of the year.
- The Mental Health Strategic Plan will look at each geographic area and the needs arising that are particular to each area. The issue of sectorisation will be considered as part of the plan. It was confirmed that the Strategic Plan for Mental Health will be brought to the Board in the Spring.
- In respect of services for those with Acquired Brain Injury a national conference on Rehabilitation is being held in October in conjunction with the National Rehabilitation Hospital which will highlight these areas of need. The recently completed survey around services for young chronic disabled clients has also emphasised the need for addressing services for this Care Group
- An assessment of psychiatric service provision in the Kildare area indicated that there were sufficient acute beds available but that there were no step down or high support beds. The provision of step down facilities would need to be funded under the NDP which is currently under review. However, current

service provision in the area will be reassessed following the publication of the recent census figures.

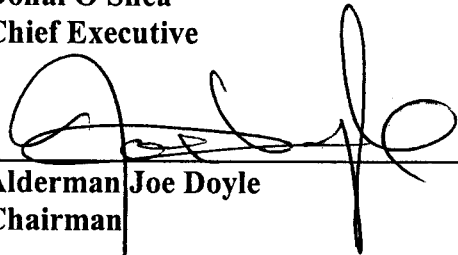
- A framework for the development of alcohol treatment services is in preparation and will consider a range of services in tandem with residential treatment. A report on the framework will be brought to the Board before the end of the year.
- A progress report on the implementation of the Youth Homelessness Strategy will be brought to the members in November.

The Chairman thanked Ms Angela Fitzgerald; Mr Pat McLoughlin and Mr Liam Woods and the members for their contribution to the debate. The Chairman closed the meeting at 7:50pm

**CORRECT**

**Donal O Shea**

**Chief Executive**

  
Alderman Joe Doyle  
Chairman

Date \_\_\_\_\_



**EASTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY**  
**Minutes of proceedings of Board Meeting**  
**held in the Boardroom, Dr Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8**  
**on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2002 at 18:00**

***Present***

Mr Patrick Aspell	Dr Siobhan Barry
Cllr Christy Burke	Cllr Laurence Butler
Cllr Eric Byrne	Cllr Maria Corrigan
Mr Martin Cowley	Cllr Tommy Cullen
Cllr Anne Devitt	Cllr Jane Dillion Byrne
Mr John Dolan	Cllr Pat Doran
Sen Joe Doyle Ald	Cllr Andrew Doyle
Mr Joe Fallon	Cllr Tony Fox
Dr Maurice Gueret	Dr Kieran
Ms Ann Harris	Ms Noeleen Harvey
Ms Maria Hoban	Dr Marie Laffoy
Mr Paul Ledwidge	Cllr Colm Mc Grath
Mr Gerry Mc Guire	Cllr Martin Miley
Cllr Olivia T.D. Mitchell	Dr Michael Molloy
Ald Mary Mooney	Dr Bernard Murphy
Mr Michael Murphy	Cllr Dermot Murray
Cllr Eamonn O'Brien	Cllr Dr William O'Connell
Dr Philip O'Connell	Cllr Charles O'Connor
Cllr Michael O'Donovan	Sean O'Fearghail
Mrs Catherine Quinn	Cllr James Reilly
Dr. James Reilly	Sen Therese Ridge
Cllr Don Tipping	Mr Larry Tuomey

***In the Chair***

Alderman Joe Doyle

***Apologies***

Cllr. Dr. Dermot Fitzpatrick TD

***In Attendance***

Mr. Donal O'Shea, Mr. Pat McLoughlin, Ms. Angela Fitzgerald; Mr. Martin Devine,  
Ms. Maureen Browne, Ms. Sile Fleming, Mr. Dougie Beaton, Dr. Marie Laffoy,  
Mr. Mark Fagan, Ms. Valerie Nagle, Mr. Tom Finn, Ms. Karen Burke, Ms. Audrey  
Hogan, Ms. Helen Stokes, Ms. Aideen Hassett, Ms. Joanne Fitzpatrick

## Opening Prayer

09/02/75

### CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

*Agenda Item No. 1*

The Chairman expressed the sympathy of the members of the Board to Christopher Fox, a member of the security staff Dr. Steevens', on the recent death of both his mother Angela Fox RIP and his brother Gregory RIP.

### Details of Forthcoming Meetings

- The continuation of the Mid Year Review of the ERHA Board, scheduled for Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> September at 10:30am has been rescheduled for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 18.00 hrs in the Boardroom, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8.
- The next meeting of the Finance & Property Committee is scheduled for Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> September in the Boardroom, Dr Steevens Hospital, Dublin 8, at 10:30am.
- The next meeting of the Acute Hospital and Primary Care Committee is scheduled for Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> September in the Boardroom, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8, at 6:00p.m. The Agenda will include a report on Cancer incidence in the Eastern region.
- The next meeting of the ERHA Board is scheduled for Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, in the Boardroom, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8, which will commence at 6.00p.m.
- The next meeting of the Continuing Care Committee is scheduled for Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> October in the Boardroom, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8 at 11:00am.

09/02/76 Minutes of the proceedings of meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2002.

*Agenda Item No. 2*

*The draft Minutes of the meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2002 (copy appended to the official minute), having being circulated, were proposed for adoption by Ms. Maria Hoban, seconded by Cllr. Eamon O'Brien and agreed.*

09/02/77

### Questions to Chief Executive

*Agenda Item No. 3*

#### 3.1 Dr Siobhan Barry

**Re: Psychiatry for Old Age Services**

Could the CEO comment on the lack of mention of the Psychiatry of Old Age service in the ERHA Annual Report 2001 (Services for the Elderly, Section 16)? Might there have been "Key priorities" or "Service Developments in

2001" which were overlooked when preparing the annual report and when might the Board expect the results of the interim review of this service scheduled for completion in April 2002 (ref. ERHA CEO questions, December 2001)?

#### **REPLY**

The Psychiatry of Old Age Services are mentioned as part of the core service provision on page 47 of the Annual Report. The Annual Report does not identify every detailed service development and in particular if developments had been funded in the previous year. The following are examples:

- An allocation of £50,000 was provided to complete a consultant led team in Areas 4 and 5 in the South Western Area Health Board.
- In the Northern Area Health Board, the full year cost of a consultant led team which had been commissioned in 2002.

The reason for the delay in the completion of the review of Psychiatry of Old Age arises because of the difficulties in having key stakeholders i.e., consultant psychiatrists, involved in the process. The Authority has sought on a number of occasions to deal with their concerns and has now requested the union representing the psychiatrists to try to progress the matter. The review, however, is proceeding and an interim report has now been prepared and is being considered by the Steering Committee. The key priority is to complete this review during 2002.

### **3.2 Dr Siobhan Barry**

#### **Re: ERHA Annual Report 2001 (Mental Health, Section 21)**

Could the CEO comment on the appropriateness once again (C.f. Annual Report 2000) of using a picture of a private psychiatric hospital as a lead picture to this section? Was consent sought from this hospital for the use of such a picture in the ERHA Annual Reports and at a future time, might the Authority, consider using images of other private hospitals, e.g. the Blackrock Clinic, as lead photographs in the Acute Hospitals Section?

#### **REPLY**

The Hospitaller Order of St. John of God is one of the ERHA provider agencies and the St. John of God Hospital in Stillorgan provides services for public patients on a contract basis. The photograph used was supplied by the hospital. A photograph of the Blackrock hospital could be considered for inclusion in an annual report as it also provides services for public patients in the east.

### **3.3 Cllr. Christy Burke**

To ask the CEO if he would make a statement to the Eastern Regional Health Board regarding the 14 million euro short fall of funding at Beaumont Hospital and if the CEO has had any discussions with senior management at Beaumont Hospital.

## **REPLY**

The Authority is in ongoing discussions with the management at Beaumont Hospital on a number of matters including the Hospital's projected outturn. The most recent meeting in this regard was last Thursday. Beaumont have undertaken to return to the Authority next week with proposals to manage within the available resource.

### **3.4 Cllr. Christy Burke**

To ask the CEO the cost of medication for patients outside the Northern Area Health Board who are patients in the Mater and Beaumont Hospitals.

## **REPLY**

The actual breakdown of the cost of medications for patients treated at the above hospitals from outside the (1) Northern Area Health Board and (2) the Eastern Regional Health Authority is currently not available to the Authority. Historically, both the Mater and Beaumont Hospitals have treated patients from outside both the NAHB and the ERHA, the funding to do so was taken into account in calculating the initial base allocations.

### **3.5 Cllr. Charlie O Connor**

To confirm that the funding needs of Tallaght Hospital (AMINCH) will be given special attention; noting the huge demands of services at this 4 year hospital which caters for a huge area including Tallaght which is the third largest population center in the state; will he give assurances and make a statement.

## **REPLY**

Staff of the Authority are fully cognisant of the demand for acute hospital services in the Tallaght area. The central role of Tallaght Hospital in meeting this demand and its wider supra regional and national remit in certain specialties, both paediatric and adult, is fully appreciated. The Authority is committed to securing accessible, high quality and cost-effective services for the people of Tallaght, subject to the overall resources available. In fulfilling its commissioning role, the Authority seeks to the greatest extent possible to obtain from Tallaght Hospital and other providers serving the Tallaght population the level and range of services that will meet the population's needs.

Funds provided to Tallaght Hospital since the Hospital's opening have allowed for development of the following services:

- Accident and Emergency - Observation, Chest Pain and secondary medical triage areas.
- 31 additional public inpatient beds in Burkitt Ward.
- Renal – 7 Additional haemodialysis stations opened.
- Theatres – 2 extra theatres opened.
- Intervention Cardiac Catheterisation Laboratory opened
- Age Related Day Hospital opened
- Paediatric High Dependency Unit opened

- Initiation of Liaison Psychiatry Services
- Initiation of Pain Management / Back Pain Clinic
- Initiation and development of symptomatic breast cancer service
- Expansion of General Surgery Service
- Initiation of Oncology Service including the appointment of Oncologist and support team
- Expansion of Orthopaedic Surgery including additional consultant appointed
- Expansion of Gastroenterology Service including the appointment of additional consultant

The Authority is currently finalising a provider plan agreement with Tallaght Hospital. This will allow for the level of activity commissioned by the Authority from Tallaght Hospital in 2001 to be delivered. In addition, extra activity will be commissioned in areas such as oncology, waiting lists, etc. The most recent level of indicative funding advised to Tallaght Hospital for this year is €142.479 million. This shows an increase of €8.484 million over last year's outturn.

In conclusion, the Authority will continue to work with Tallaght Hospital to secure the improvement of services for the benefit of the local population.

### **3.6 Cllr. Charlie O Connor**

To ask the CEO to outline progress over the summer months in respect of the provision of funding for the urgently needed redevelopment of the Millbrook Lawns Health Centre in Tallaght; will he confirm that this project has priority status and will he make a statement.

#### **REPLY**

The Authority are still awaiting the outcome of the Department of Health & Children's national review of the National Development Plan (NDP) and consequently have not received a capital allocation for 2002. You will already be aware that the Authority has made a number of submissions to the Department in which the prioritisation of Millbrook Lawns has been re-enforced. The Authority in discussions with the Department will continue to seek the necessary funding to enable the project to proceed as proposed.

### **09/02/78 Matters for Mention**

*Agenda Item No 4*

*There were no matters for mention*

### **09/02/79 Report No 19/02 - Proposed disposal of land at Geraldstown House, Ballymun, Dublin 9 – for approval.**

*Agenda Item No. 5*

**The Chief Executive presented Report No. 19/02 – With reference to the proposed disposal of lands at at Geraldstown House, Ballymun, Dublin (*copy appended to the official minute*). On the proposal of Cllr Laurence Butler, seconded by Cllr Tony Fox, the Board resolved unanimously to dispose of 2.9 acres of**

***Geraldstown House Estate in return for re-development of Geraldstown House and acquisition of land at Lusk to William B. Kilmurray, Woodford Developments under the terms and conditions specified in the Section 89 notice as circulated.***

**09/02/80 Report 20/02 Nomination to the Board of the Adelaide and Meath Hospital incorporating the National Children's Hospital**

***Agenda Item No. 6***

Report No. 20/02 (*copy appended to the official minute*) advised members that by letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> May 2002, Mr Denis Reardon, Honorary Secretary of the Adelaide and Meath Hospital incorporating the National Children's Hospital wrote to the Authority advising that "under Clause (14) (1) of the Charter of this Hospital the term of office of existing Board Members comes to an end on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2002" and requesting the Board to nominate to the Minister for Health & Children one person for appointment as a member of the Board for the next triennium starting 1<sup>st</sup> August 2002.

At the Joint Protocol and Finance & Property Meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> June 2002, it was agreed to recommend to the Board of the Authority that Cllr. C. O'Connor T.D. be nominated to the Minister for Health and Children for appointment to the Board of the Adelaide and Meath Hospital incorporating the National Children's Hospital.

***On the proposal of Cllr C Burke, seconded by Mr M Cowley, it was agreed that Cllr. C. O'Connor T.D. be nominated to the Minister for Health and Children for appointment to the Board of the Adelaide and Meath Hospital incorporating the National Children's Hospital.***

**09/02/81 Report No 21/02 - Service Development for Adults with Diabetes within the Eastern Region.**

***Agenda Item No. 7***

Mr. Tom Finn, Senior Commissioner presented Report No 21/02 - Service Development for Adults with Diabetes within the Eastern Region (*copy appended to the official minute*).

There followed a debate to which the following members contibuted : Dr. Siobhan Barry, Mrs. Catherine Quinn, Mr. John Dolan, Cllr. Eamonn O'Brien, Dr. Phillip O'Connell, Dr. James Reilly, Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne, Mrs. Maria Hoban and Mr. Joe Fallon and the following issues were raised:-

- (1) the incorporation of the psychological aspect of diabetes in the report.
- (2) Establishing the views of the families and patients themselves
- (3) Diabetes prevention.
- (4) The financing of the initiative

Ms. Karen Burke, Service Planner, said that with regard to the psychological aspect of the illness, it was intended to avail of such services already available in the hospitals as well as the community. She also advised members that 28 patients had been asked for their comments during the course of the review. In addition, the Health Promotion

Officers in the Area Health Boards will be central to providing an education programme for families. Mr. O Shea advised members that finance will be sought from the Department of Health and Children following acceptance of the report by members.

***On the proposal of Cllr Jane Dillon Byrne, seconded by Cllr. Eamonn O'Brien, Report 21/02 - Service Development for Adults with Diabetes within the Eastern Region was agreed by members.***

**09/02/82      Report No 22/02 - Census of Population 2002.**  
***Agenda Item No. 8***

Dr. Marie Laffoy Director of Public Health presented Report No 22/02 - Census of Population 2002 (*copy appended to the official minute*).

Following the presentation, there was a debate to which the following members participated: Cllr. Don Tipping, Cllr. Anne Devitt, Cllr Eric Byrne, Cllr Jim Reilly, Dr. Siobhan Barry, Cllr. Charlie O'Connor TD, Dr. James Reilly, Mr. Martin Cowley and John Dolan and the following issues were raised:-

- (1) the growth in population in the region particularly in the more deprived areas.
- (2) The importance of liaison with local authorities and communities in areas of deprivation.

Mr O Shea advised members that the level of growth that had taken place had been predicted and projected figures used for planning purposes were quite similar to the actual findings of the census. He acknowledged the importance of working with local authorities and communities.

**09/02/83      Chief Executive's Report**  
***Agenda Item No. 9***

The Chief Executive's Report (*copy appended to the official minute*) was circulated. The report dealt with the following items.

- Hospital Breast Cancer Services
- Adjustment to Allocation
- National Health Strategy
- National Burns Unit, Our Lady's Hospital, for Sick Children, Crumlin
- Beaumont Hospital – Acute Psychiatric Unit
- MRI Facility at Our Lady's Hospital, for Sick Children, Crumlin
- European Communities and Swiss Confederation Act 2001
- List of reports received and available to members on request

There followed a debate to which the following members contributed:- Cllr. Therese Ridge, Cllr. Don Tipping, Cllr. Larry Butler, Cllr. Eric Byrne, Mr. Gerry Maguire, Cllr. Olivia Mitchell TD, Cllr. Maria Corrigan, Dr. Mick Molloy, Mr. Paul Ledwidge, Cllr. Christy Burke, Cllr. Eamon O'Brien, Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne, Cllr. Anne Devitt,

Cllr. Colm McGrath, Cllr. Andrew Doyle, and Mr. Michael Murphy and the following issues were raised:-

- (1) The adjustment in allocation detailed in the report and whether other adjustments are anticipated.
- (2) The delivery of the service plan
- (3) The timetable for completion of the Acute Psychiatric Unit in Beaumont
- (4) Concern regarding the future of Temple Street Hospital

Mr. O Shea briefly outlined the situation regarding the funding of health in the eastern region for 2002 and explained that if this impacted on the service plan for 2002 or on services for 2003 then he would advise the Board. He advised the Board that it was anticipated that the development of the Acute Psychiatric Unit in Beaumont would be completed in approximately 12 months. He explained that Temple Street Hospital would be relocated on a site within the Mater Hospital development.

*On proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Cllr Jane Dillon Byrne the report of the Chief Executive was noted.*

Mr. O Shea informed the Chairman and Members that Mr. Pat McLoughlin, Director of Planning & Commissioning, ERHA will be leaving the Eastern Regional Health Authority on Friday 20th September 2002. He is due to take up his new post as Chief Executive in the South Eastern Health Board on the 7th October. He thanked Mr. McLoughlin for his service with both the Eastern Health Board and with the Authority.

The Chairman supported and concurred with the Chief Executive's comments and extended the good wishes of the Board to Mr. McLoughlin.

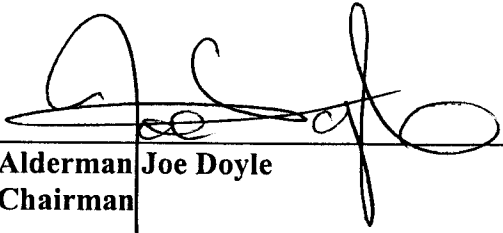
Mr. McLoughlin thanked both the Chief Executive and Chairman for their remarks.

**09/02/84      Date & Time of Next Meeting**  
**Agenda Item No. 9**

The date and time for the next meeting was agreed for Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2002 at 18:00 in the Board Room, Dr. Steevens' Hospital.

The meeting concluded at 20:50hrs.

**CORRECT**  
**Donal O Shea**  
**Chief Executive**

  
Alderman Joe Doyle  
Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**