



**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, 7th 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,