

NORTHERN AREA HEALTH BOARD

Report No. 6/2001

Cardiovascular Strategy

“Building Healthier Hearts” The Report of the Cardiovascular Health Strategy Group was launched by the Department of Health & Children in March 2000. This Strategy outlined a number of recommendations on Cardiovascular Health in the areas of

- Pre-hospital and hospital settings
- Primary Care
- Health Promotion Programmes

Funding was made available as follows in 2000 to commence the implementation of the recommendations outlined in the Strategy.

James Connolly Memorial Hospital	£322,000
Health Promotion Department	£125,300

In early 2000 the former Eastern Health Board made a submission to the Department of Health & Children for the development of secondary prevention within the services being piloted in the existing Primary Care Partnerships including the North Inner City Partnership. Discussions on this particular development were protracted and concluded with approval in mid November 2000. Consultations are now taking place with a view to putting this service in place at an early date.

The funding allocated included an allocation for the Project Manager position who will manage the Cardiovascular Project for the Northern Area Health Board. Recruitment is in process and in the interim the position is filled pro-temp.

New services developed in James Connolly Memorial Hospital are as follows

- Cardiac Rehabilitation
- Smoking Cessation
- Dietician Services
- Risk Factor Research for Cardiovascular Disease
- Physiotherapy and Support Services.

All new positions have been filled and services have commenced. The allocation included £308,000 for cardiac equipment which is now in place.

The Health Promotion allocation related to the employment of Health Promotion Officers for the following areas

- Physical Exercise
- Tobacco Control
- Workplace Health Promotion
- Community Nutritionists.

These posts were advertised recently.

Additional funding secured for Cardiovascular Services in 2001 is as follows:-

Health Promotion	£219,459
James Connolly Memorial Hospital	£202,050
Primary Care	£157,500
Support Services	£ 19,500
Total	£598,509

Discussions are now taking place at service level regarding the prioritisation of this funding. The Board will be advised at an early date on the outcome of these discussions.

*M. Windle,
Chief Executive*

15th February, 2001.