



MID-WESTERN
HEALTH BOARD

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Date 18 March 2004

To: Cathaoirleach & Each Member
Mid-Western Health Board

Report No: 20/04
Item No 8 on Agenda

Report for Meeting of the Board to be held Monday the 05th April 2004.

Transfer of Rosemount Residential Childcare Centre.

Dear Member

Members were previously advised that the Good Shepherd Sisters intended to cease direct provision of residential childcare service within this region. This decision was taken because the Good Shepherd Sisters, due to falling numbers, were unable to continue to manage the service. Negotiations over the past two years between the Board and the Good Shepherd Sisters resulted in the transfer of the residential child care centre at Rosemount, Clare Street Limerick, from the 27th February 2004.

The overriding concerns in the negotiations were to ensure the continuation of a quality service for those children currently in the residential setting and to make appropriate arrangements for the staff involved.

The Child Care Centre has a capacity for 5 children and a staff complement of 12.

The transfer of the service is governed by the Transfer of Undertakings Regulations, 2003, (S. 1. 131) whereby staff employed by Rosemount transferred to the employment of the Mid Western Health Board on their existing terms and conditions of employment. Appropriate arrangements have been put in place to facilitate this.

The Board's legal advisors have had negotiations with the legal representatives of the Good Shepherd Sisters in relation to ongoing insurance and liability issues and agreement has been reached in relation to these matters.

The Department of Health & Children has been aware of the negotiations and has been advised of the implications of the transfer. Social Service Inspectorate has been notified of the transfer.

A legal agreement has now been drawn up and executed between the Good Shepherd Sisters and the Mid Western Health Board which gives effect to all of the above arrangements.

The Mid Western Health Board would like to take this opportunity to thank the Good Shepherd Sisters for their work at Rosemount service over the past 9 years.

Yours sincerely,

**JAMES O'GRADY,
REGIONAL MANAGER
CHILDREN & DISABILITY SERVICES.**