

NORTHERN AREA HEALTH BOARD

Report No 27/2002

St. Joseph Hospital, Raheny,

Up-date Draft Development Plan

An assessment of future service requirements has been undertaken and the recommendations for use of the site were included in the report presented to the Board on 16th May.

In proposing the maximum utilisation of the site, service gaps were identified at the acute hospital level and within the community when preparing the proposal.

The Proposed Development of Services on the Site of St. Joseph's

In order to determine the best use of St Joseph's Site it was necessary to examine the existing facilities within our Boards area, identify the gaps in the service and then develop this proposal to meet identified priority needs. The report previously mentioned indicated that there is a particular need to increase services in the following care area's;

- Older persons
- Primary care
- Disability
- Mental Health

This led to the first outline of our Board's proposed plans for the utilisation of the St. Josephs site, as follows

- A Community Unit for the Care of the Older persons including a day centre, inclusive of services for Alzheimer patients.
- An Extended Care Unit for frail mentally ill including a day activity centre
- A Primary Care Center.
- A Sensory and Disability Unit with facilities for rehabilitation, day care and extended care facilities.
- A Rehabilitation Unit for mental health patients.

The site will be developed as one united unit. This approach will allow for the sharing of certain facilities on site i.e. physiotherapy, primary care services and other therapy services where at all possible, as recommended in the architects condensing report.

Further consideration is required surrounding the acute services currently being provided in the present hospital building , this will be included in the Protected Development Control Plan.

Architects

The Architects appointed on behalf of the Northern Area Health Board, James Ahern Architects, Raheny, prepared a block plan for the site based on a selection of potential site uses, this plan has been reviewed and a condensing report is currently being prepared by the architects.

A meeting took place with the Architects. A Protected Development Control Plan will be produced in consultation with the architects following a land survey. The Architect will also have preliminary discussions with the planning department.

Convent

The Convent is located on a strategic position on the site. There are restrictive covenants pertaining to the convent, contained in the purchase agreement. A meeting took place in June with the Sisters of St. Joseph's of Chanberry to discuss the draft report. Further discussions will commence with the Sisters of St Joseph's of Chanberry when we are in receipt of a more detailed report from the architects regarding the site/land survey. In the meantime, a copy of the first draft plan has been given to the Sisters and their views and the restrictive covenant will be considered in the preparation of the Development Plan..

Conclusion

This report was circulated to the Chief Executive Officer of Beaumont, the G.P.'s, Chairperson of St. Joseph's Medical Board, Sisters of St. Joseph's and the staff of St. Joseph's Hospital.

A working group will be formed with representative from all stakeholders to further progress the plans for the site of St. Joseph's. These discussions will run parallel with the Architect's work and should conclude in September. The Protected Development Control Plan will be brought to the Board at a future date.

M.Windle
Chief Executive

20th June 2002