

EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of Proceedings of Meetings of the Eastern Health Board held in the Boardroom, 1 James's Street, Dublin on Thursday, 5th August, 1971 at 3 p.m.

Present:

Deputy P. Belton	Dr. A. Meade
Senator Dr. R. Belton	Dr. James McCormick
Dr. F. de Burgh Whyte	Dr. J. St. L. O'Dea
Deputy M. A. Clinton	Dr. B. O'Donnell
Mr. J. Corcoran, M.B.	Mr. Dermot O'Flynn
Dr. J. Cullen	Dr. B. OHerlihy
Cllr. Michael Cunningham	Mr. Thomas RJordan
Deputy H. P. Dockrell	Deputy Richie Ryan
Cllr. James Dowling	Cllr. John Sweeney
Cllr. Patrick Hickey, P.C.	Cllr. John Temple
Dr. P. C. Jennings	Deputy G. Timmins
Miss Kay Kinsella	Deputy Eugene Timmons
Cllr. A. Mahon	

Apologies for Absence:

Mr. D. Galivan, B.D.S., Miss Eileen Horgan and
Commissioner John Garvin

Dr. J. McCormick, Chairman, presided.

Officers in Attendance:

Mr. E. O Caoimh.	Mr. J. Doyle
<i>Chief Executive Officer</i>	Mr. C. D. McElree
Mr. J. J. Nolan	Mr. P. A. O'Neill
<i>Deputy Chief Executive Officer</i>	Mr. P. J. Swords
	Mr. J. A. Duggan
Prof. Ivor Browne,	Mr. F. J. McCullough
<i>Chief Psychiatrist</i>	Mr. A. O'Brien
Mr. J. F. Reynolds,	Miss M. Bairead
<i>Finance Officer</i>	
Dr. M. Crowe,	
<i>Chief Medical Officer</i>	

70/71

VOTE OF CONDOLENCE

On a proposal by the Chairman, a vote of condolence was passed with Dr. W. J. Roche, Medical Officer, St. Columcille's Hospital on the recent death of his sister.

71/71 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the monthly meeting of the Board held on 1st July, 1971 having been circulated, were confirmed—on D proposal by Councillor Hickey, seconded by Councillor Clinton.

72/71 PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES

Reports of proceedings of the following Visiting Committees, having been circulated, were confirmed:

- (a) "Report of Meeting of Hospital Visiting Committee (Group No. 2) held at St. Brigid's Home, Crooksling on Friday, 9th July, 1971 at 3 p.m.

Present:

Senator Dr. R. Belton (Chairman)
Miss K. Kinselh
Dr. A. Meade

An apology was received from Di. J. S.: L. O'Dea, who was on leave, for his inability to attend.

Officers in Attendance:

Miss M. Keogh, Matron
Dr. K. Aboud, Acting Asst. Medical Superintendent
Mr. J. V. Crumlish, Engineering Officer
Miss E. T. Moran, Assistant Matron
Mr. L. Hogan, Senior Executive Officer

Bed Availability and Occupancy

Matron informed the Committee that the total bed complement of the Home was 207 and that there were 185 female patients accommodated at present. There were 22 vacant beds in Units C and D. These units were, because of their location on the hill, reserved for ambulant patients and no suitable patients in this category were refused admission.

Staffing

Matron indicated that 25 nursing staff and 25 domestic staff were engaged at the Home. Numbers were below approved staff complements but the position was generally satisfactory. Matron also indicated that staff facilities and conditions at the Home were satisfactory.

INSPECTIONS

(A) The members inspected ward Units A, B, C, and D. the kitchen, diningrooms, the patients' day room and solarium and spoke to several patients and members of staff. The members commented very favourably on the attention shown to patients and their happy disposition and appearance of well being. The members also noted with satisfaction the cleanliness of the Ward areas and the high standard of decoration.

(B) The members were advised that a large scale painting programme in Units C and D was well advanced.

(C) The Engineering Officer stated that the roofs of most buildings had been cleaned by sandblasting and that the Contractor was being pressed to complete outstanding matters.

(D) Matron advised the Committee that it was desirable to have a suitable floor covering provided in the patients' day room to facilitate cleaning in that area. The Members were informed that the Estimate allowance for floor covering would not be sufficient to execute this work which would cost approximately £250/£300. They recommended that if sufficient money became available during the year the necessary work should be undertaken.

(E) The Members were advised that subsequent to the last Visiting Committee's Meeting at the Home there had been consultations with the Supervising Health Inspector on aspects of rodent control in the Home, and also in regard to certain structural deficiencies in the kitchen and food preparation areas.

The Members were informed that in conjunction with the Matron and Medical Superintendent, the Engineering Officer had carried out certain improvements. The Engineering Officer stated that it would cost in the region of £3,000 to implement fully the Health Inspector's recommendations regarding adaptations and renovations in the kitchen area. Some of this work was being deferred because the necessary financial provision had not been made in the current year's maintenance Estimate.

(F) The Members were advised that plans were being prepared by the Engineering Officer to provide four ad-

ditional toilets in the vicinity of the Day Room for patients in Unit D. The members recommended that this work should be put in hands as soon as possible.

Heating Arrangements

Matron reported that since the boiler units had been converted to automatic oil burning the heating arrangements in the Home were considerably improved and were now at a very satisfactory level.

Ward Equipment

The Members strongly recommended that a second "Ambulift" should be purchased forthwith to facilitate with the bathing of patients in Unit A.

Kitchen Equipment

The Members inspected the large electric cooker which had been recently installed in the kitchen. The Engineering Officer indicated that this equipment would be more economical and cleaner in operation than the solid fuel cookers. The Members also noted the installation of two potato steamers in the kitchen.

Maintenance Programme (1971/72)

The Members were advised that £9,400 was provided in the current year's Estimate for 'special' works of a maintenance nature. The Chairman directed that the programme of works should be noted in this report. Details are as follows:

Painting (in progress)	£3,000
Storage Tanks—Units C & D (quotations being examined)	£1,000
Repairs to Roads (Chapel to C & D) partially completed	£800
Replacement Kitchen Equipment (completed)	£700
Roof—Nurses' Home (quotations awaited)	£600
Roof—Cleaning (completed)	£500
Roof—Boilerhouse (in progress)	£600
Replacement Floor Covering A & B (quotations being examined)	£500
Electrical Rewiring (in progress)	£500
Building Repairs—General (in progress)	£500
Administration Block Heating (not yet started)	£500
Septic Tank Cleaning (in progress)	£200

The Engineering Officer advised the meeting that the full programme would be completed before the end of the financial year.

Patients

Matron informed the meeting that patients normally rose at 8 a.m. and that ambulant patients were expected to retire not later than 10 p.m. Non-ambulant patients retired to bed about 7 p.m. Any patient wishing to stay in bed after normal rising time was permitted to do so. Television was available for patients up to 10 p.m.

General

The Members paid a special compliment to Matron and the staff for the manner in which the Home was conducted and the care and attention to patients. They also complimented the Engineering Officer and his staff for the high standard of maintenance in the Home. The Members also expressed appreciation of the hospitality shown to them on the occasion of their first visit.

Next Meeting

The Members agreed to hold their next meeting at the District Hospital. Baltinglass on Thursday, August 5th at 11 a.m.

Miss Kinsella was requested and agreed to act as convenor of the meetings of the No. 2 Committee.

The meeting ended at 4.30 p.m."

(b) "Report of No. 3 Visiting Committee.

Visit to St. Gabriel's Day Clinic. Clontarf, on 30th April, 1971

1. Having been received by Dr. B. McCaffrey, Clinical Director, Dr. H. Crawley, Mr. M. Murrhy, Miss E. Dunleavy, Miss E. Potter-Cogan, we inspected the facilities provided at the Day Centre for psychiatric patients.

2. We noted that the premises were originally built as a community centre by St. Gabriel's parishioners, that it is managed by a Committee representative of the local community, and that it was rented from the Management Committee by the former Health Authority in July, 1970.

Arrangements with the Committee permit the use of the premises as a day centre for psychiatric patients from the north central catchment area for five days per week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. During the day-time access to the Centre by local groups is encouraged by the Board's staff with a view to encouraging community involvement. We are informed that the unit is regarded as being therapeutically successful and that an entirely acceptable degree of community involvement has been achieved which is regarded as being beneficial to the patients and to the community.

3. The Centre provides services such as physical training, games, art classes, music appreciation groups, cookery lessons, beauty therapy and relaxation therapy etc., several group sessions (psychotherapy) each week. Patients were encouraged to join in all the activities and, indeed, to assist in the day to day running of the Clinic in every possible way.

4. The objects of this type of centre are:—

- (a) to provide early preventive or remedial treatment in a non-institutional atmosphere for patients who have been assessed as having psychiatric problems thereby preventing their hospitalisation;
- (b) to provide a facility for gradual re-introduction into the community of medium and long stay in-patients in preparation for their discharge from hospital.

5. We were informed that 60 patients have been discharged from the Centre since it opened in July, 1970 and that the present complement of patients is 36. The Centre provides an excellent location for the type of services being provided there by the Board.

6. We record our appreciation of the co-operation and assistance of the staff in conducting our inspection. We recommend that the Board express to the Management Committee of the Centre and the organisations which they represent its appreciation of their contribution towards community development in providing such a fine facility and in sharing it with the Psychiatric Service so as to provide a desirable environment for the treatment of psychiatric patients. We record a special word of thanks to the members of the local community who regularly provide voluntary services to the patients at the Centre".

- (c) 'Report of Meeting of No. 3 Visiting Committee held at St. Ita's Hospital at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, 21st July, 1971.

Present

Dr. B. O'Heriuhy	Councillor M. Cunningham
Mr. John Corcoran	Councillor James Dowling
	Councillor A. Mahon

Officers in Attendance:

Mr. F. J. McCullough. Mr. T. McNamee. Mr. B. Hannon, Dr. M. N. McGuinness, Miss M. F. McEntee.

Apologies were received from Councillor Hickey and Mr. O'Flynn for inability to attend and also from Dr. J. T. Bergin, Medical Superintendent.

BUSINESS

In the absence of the Chairman it was proposed by Councillor Mahon and seconded by Councillor Dowling that Councillor Cunningham take the chair.

The Report of the Committee's visit to St. Gabriel's Day Clinic, Clontarf, on 30th April, 1971 was read and adopted. The services provided by the Clinic, the degree of community involvement and the results shown are very encouraging.

It was agreed for the August meeting (Athy and Naas 19th August, 1971) the Members should meet at Athy at 2.00 p.m. At that meeting also the date for the next visit to St. Ita's should be fixed.

St. Ita's Hospital

The Committee visited temporary buildings 9 and 11 and saw the redecoration and reconstruction in hand. In 11 (female) the day room floor had been completely removed and replaced by a new concrete base. This was at present awaiting tiling.

In 9 (male) painting was in progress and also reconstruction of toilets and bathrooms.

The Committee also visited the Children's Unit. There are 21 and 35 children respectively in each section.

The Members were very favourably impressed by the attention, nursing and care given to the patients.

Part of the Occupational Therapy Department was also visited. About sixty patients attend this section, where classes in woodwork are given by a qualified Vocational Education Instructor twice a week. Examples of work

being done were seen e.g., assembly of wooden tomato trays, also the assembly of key chains, jewellery, pot scrubs and light packaging.

The Committee appreciate the facilities and consideration afforded them by the Board's staff in the course of their visit and also thank the catering staff for a pleasant tea.

The meeting concluded at 5.45 p.m."

73/71 AUTHORISATION OF EXCESS EXPENDITURE

The following Report No. 32/1971 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:—

'The Minister for Health has made Regulations providing for increases in allowances to disabled persons and persons suffering from infectious diseases. The Regulations which are effective from 1st August, 1971 provide for the following increases in maximum rate of weekly allowances:

(1) Disabled Persons (Maintenance) Allowances—increases of 40p.

	Present Rates	New Rates
Persons with no other means other than allowance	£4 00	£4 40
Other Persons	£3-75	£4-15

(2) Infectious Diseases (Maintenance) Allowances

	Present Rates		New Rates	
	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
	<i>Persons with no means other than allowance</i>	<i>Other Persons</i>		
Person with dependent spouse	£7-90	£7-40	£8 70	£8 20
Single or widowed person with dependent 16 yr. or over	£6 10	£5 60	£6 70	£6 20
Single or widowed person	£4 10	£3 85	£4 50	£4 25
<i>Child dependants:</i>				
18 years or over.60p		75p
Under 18 years—				
1st & 2nd Children		75p		75p
3rd and each subsequent Child.65p		75p
Domestic Help Allowance.	£1 10			£2 75

The estimated cost of implementing these increases in the current financial year will be:—

Disabled Persons (Maintenance) Allowances £40,000 00
 Infectious Diseases (Maintenance) Allowances £8,500-00

No provision was made for these increases in the Estimates for the current year and authorisation of the Eastern Health Board to excess expenditure in the sum of £48,500 00 is required".

It was proposed by Councillor Hickey, seconded by Mr. O'Flynn and unanimously resolved:—

"That the Eastern Health Board consents to the proposals contained in Report No. 32/1971 and authorises expenditure of £48,500 in the current financial year in excess of that provided in the Estimate of Expenses for the year 1971/72 under the following headings:—

<i>Service</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>Amount</i>
HEALTH	Rehabilitation and Maintenance of Disabled Persons	£40,000
	Tuberculosis and Other Infectious Diseases	£8,500
		£48,500**

74/71 BORROWING PROPOSALS FOR CAPITAL WORKS

The following Report No. 33/1971 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:—

"I submit herewith, a schedule of capital expenditure for which long term borrowing arrangements must be made. Capital expenditure by the Board is usually financed temporarily out of Revenue monies advanced by the Board's Bankers pending the raising of loans from the Commissioners of Public Works and the receipt of Grants from the Hospitals' Trust Fund. In the case of the projects listed, on the attached schedule where expenditure has been incurred, the monies required were made available by the Munster and Leinster Bank as part of bank overdraft facilities or credit balances, depending on the short term position from time to time on the Revenue Account.

It will be noted that in the case of some projects listed loans have already been approved by the Minister. The necessity to raise further loans >n these cases is that the costs as now estimated will exceed the Architect's original estimates of costs.

PROJECT	Estimated Cost	Estimated Grant	Balance	Loan Approved	Amount to be raised	Observations
Heating Services St. Ita's Hospital	£ 260,000	£ 130,000	£ 130,000	£	£ 130,000	
Water Tower, do.	56,000	28,000	28,000	—	28,000	
School, St. Loman's	27,000	18,000	9,000	—	9,000	
Psychiatric Unit, St. James' Hospital	70,000	35,000	35,000	25,000	10,000	
140 St. Laurence's Road Conversion of Laundry to O.T. Dept. St. Loman's	12,000	6,000	6,000		6,000	
New Boiler, Male Side, St. Brendan's	2,410	1,205	1,205		1,205	
St. Brendan's industrial Therapy Unit.	8,000	4,000	4,000		4,000	
St. Ita's Renovations, St. Dymphna's	6,000	3,000	3,000		3,000	
Purchase of 229 N.C. Rd.	24,000	12,000	12,000		12,000	
Purchase of 234 N.C. Rd.	10,856	5,428	5,428		5,428	
	18,370	9,185	9,185		9,185	
	494,636	251,818	242,818	25,000 say	217,818	
Small Pox Unit, Cherry Orchard	81,600	54,400	27,200		27,200	
Mortuary and P.M. St. James' Hospital	62,000	31,000	31,000	12,000	19,000	
Maternity Hospital, St. James'	93,000	62,000	31,000	26,000	5,000	
	236,600	147,400	89,200	38,000 say	51,200	
					51,000	
Geriatric Day Hospital	50,000	—	50,000	45,000	5,000	50% loan charges Recoupable
Regina Coeli Hostel	250,000	—	250,000	160,000	90,000	
	300,000		300,000	205,000	95,000	
North Strand Health Centre	83,000	—	83,000	47,750	35,250	
Ballymun Health Centre	115,905	—	115,905	80,000	35,905	
	198,905		198,905	127,750 say	71,155	
					71,000	
30 bed Unit Baltinglass Welfare Home, Bray	80,000	—	80,000		80,000	50% loan charges Recoupable.
St. Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum	100,000		100,000		100,000	
	250,000		250,000		250,000	
	430,000		430,000		430,000	

It is proposed to raise five separate loans from the Commissioners of Public Works as follows:—

Loan A

Repayable over a period of 35 years for
capital works. Psychiatric Services _____ £218,000

Loan B

Repayable over a period of 35 years for
hospital improvement works. £51,000

Loan C

Repayable over a period of 35 years for
buildings at Regina Coeli Hostel and
Geriatric Day Centre. £95,000

Loan D

Repayable over a period of 35 years for
construction of Health Centres. £71,000

Loan E

Repayable over a period of 35 years for
construction of Welfare Homes and
County Homes, Co. Wicklow. £430,000

£865,000"

A number of members requested further information before the proposals were approved and in particular, asked why loan accommodation was only now being sought for certain projects which were already completed. Mr. Reynolds, Finance Officer, dealt with the financing of the projects and with the taking up of loans. He advised that, as the moneys required would be forthcoming, it was desirable that the Board should agree now to the borrowing and that the further information requested would be submitted to the next meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor Hickey and seconded by Councillor Timmins:—

"That we, the members of the Eastern Health Board, at meeting on 5th August. 1971 hereby resolve, subject to the consent of the Minister for Health to borrow from the Commissioners of Public Works a sum of £865,000 (eight hundred and sixty-five thousand pounds only) repayable over a period of 35 years at the rate of interest fixed by the Minister for Finance from time to time for loans from the Local Loans Fund, for the several purposes contained in the Report No. 33/1971".

On being put to the meeting, the motion was declared carried on the following voting:

For (20):

Senator Dr. R. Belton, Dr. F. de Burgh Whyte, Deputy M. A. Clinton, Mr. J. Corcoran, M.B., Dr. J. Cullen, Councillor M. Cunningham, Councillor James Dowling, Councillor Patrick Hickey, Dr. P. C. Jennings, Miss Kay Kinsella, Councillor A. Mahon, Dr. J. St. L O'Dea. Dr. B. O'Donnell. Dr. B. O'Herlihy. Mr. Thos. Riordan, Deputy Richie Ryan, Councillor John Sweeney, Councillor John Temple, Deputy G. Timmins. Deputy E. Timmons.

Against (3):

Deputy Patrick Belton, Dr. A. Meade, Mr. Dermot O'Flynn.

It was agreed that a report giving further details of the projects be submitted to the next meeting.

75/71 CREATION OF ADDITIONAL POSTS

The following Report No. 31/1971 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:—

" (a) *Laboratory Technicians*

The Laboratory Technician staff are at present working a five and a half day week and the Union representing them is pressing their claim to introduce a system whereby the staff could obtain three Saturdays off in each month. Following examination of the requirements of the Laboratory the Senior Pathologist has advised that he would be in a position to grant the Union's request if his staff complement were increased to 28. In order to provide the extra cover required I propose, with the Board's consent, to seek sanction of the Minister for Health to the creation of an additional office of Laboratory Technician.

(b) *Computer Operators*

A grade structure for all staff for the Computer Section has been established with the exception of the girls who actually operate the Computer. At present two Junior Machine Operators do this work and are required to work overtime on two nights a week in order to deal with current programmes. It is proposed to extend the Computer programmes and a third Operator will be necessary to provide for this and the introduction of a shift system. I propose therefore, with the Board's consent to create three offices

of Computer Operators in lieu of the present two posts of Junior Machine Operators and to apply a salary scale of £840x36—£1.200.

(c) Additional Receptionist. Dental Clinic

The Chief Dental Surgeon has re-arranged the system of appointments for all dental surgeries which in future will be done at the Dental Clinic in Cornmarket. He has recommended the employment of a receptionist for these duties which will enable him to release an experienced Dental Attendant to more suitable duties. I propose, with the consent of the Board, to seek the sanction of the Minister for Health to the employment of an additional receptionist for this section.

(d) Psychiatric Case Register

Information about all known psychiatric patients in the catchment area of St. Loman's and St. Patrick's Hospitals has now been compiled and it is necessary to provide clerical assistance for setting up the Register. I propose with the consent of the Board to create initially one office of Clerical Officer so that work of the Register may proceed.

I request the approval of the Eastern Health Board for the increase in the number of offices and employments as proposed".

It was proposed by Dr. Meade, seconded by Dr. Cullen and unanimously resolved:—

'That the Eastern Health Board consents to the creation of additional posts as proposed in Report No. 31/1971".

Arising from the Report, members were informed that the additional Laboratory Technician was required for St. James' Hospital and that the matter came before the Board because of an arrangement to provide services for the Hospital until the latter was organised to provide for itself. Following a short discussion on the value of the Computer to the service, it was agreed that a report on the matter would be submitted to the next meeting.

**76/71 DEVELOPMENT OF ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL.
PHOENIX PARK**

The following Report No. 34/1971 from the Chief Executive Office" was adopted:—

"Reference has been made in previous reports and also in reports of the Visiting Committee to developments in St. Mary's Hospital.

During the past few years a considerable volume of repair and improvement works has been undertaken by the Board's Engineering Staff covering such services as the Welfare Units, Intermittent Stay Home, Intensive Care Unit, Residential Accommodation for patients on discharge. Oral Surgery. More recently there has been the setting up of a Renal Unit and Home Dialysis Training Department in association with Jervis Street Hospital. Apart from these developments, a considerable up-dating of services has taken place dealing with such matters as heating, water supplies and recreational facilities for patients and staff and a new Mortuary and Post-Mortem Department.

The Board was advised in Report No. 19/1971 (Minute 51/71) of capital building projects in the hospital. On the advice of the Architect, a tender in the sum of £12,333 has been accepted covering the up-dating of accommodation in Units B, D2, Reception and Physiotherapy Departments. This forms Stage I of the Programme. The Minister's sanction to the commencement of this work is awaited. A further report will be submitted to the Board when proposals for up-dating other areas in the hospital have been received.

During recent months there have been discussions between the Medical Superintendent and the Department of Experimental Medicines, College of Surgeons. As part of the programme of development in the Hospital, it is proposed to provide facilities to the College for the setting up of a Research Unit in St. Mary's to carry out investigations on certain disorders of the aged. This project in its initial stages will not involve the Board in expenditure on staff or buildings and it is expected that it will result in a considerable improvement in the turnover in the acute beds in the Hospital, the object being a better utilisation of the entire bed resources of the Hospital. The Board will be kept advised of progress in this matter".

Members were advised that the proposals did not involve any reduction in the number of beds.

77/71 DEVELOPMENT OF ST. COLUMCILLES HOSPITAL

The following Report No. 35/1971 from the Chief Executive Officer was adopted:—

"The Board was informed (Report No. 19/1971—Capital Building Projects) that the Department of Health has sanctioned in principle the Board's proposals to provide a new staff dining room, office accommodation and also improved accommodation for para medical and other services in the Hospital at an estimated cost of £25,000.

The Architect has since recommended the acceptance of a tender for the construction work in the sum of £21,678 and the Department's sanction to the acceptance of this tender has been received and work has commenced. It is expected that the project which will provide much needed improvements in accommodation for patients and staff will be completed towards the end of the year".

**78/71 ACCEPTANCE OF GIFT—PREMISES AT
18 Lower Grand Canal Street, Dublin.**

The Chairman said that he had been asked by a representative of the Bank of Ireland to accept as a free gift, on behalf of the Board, the tenanted house at 18 Lower Grand Canal Street. He believed that the property could be of value to the Board in the expansion of its services and that it should be accepted.

It was agreed that the Board would accept the gift, subject to confirmation that it would not constitute a liability.

**79/71 CASUALTY CENTRES IN RESIDENTIAL
AREAS—COOLOCK**

The following Report No. 36/1971 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:—

"Further to Report No. 24/1971, the above matter has been further considered in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer in particular relation to the Coolock district. The Health Centre at Coolock is open each week-day and three medical officers attend there each morning (Monday to Saturday inclusive). A Public Health Nurse is also available at the Health Centre up to 5.00 p.m. each week-day and till 1.00 p.m. on Saturdays. Outside these periods the doctor on duty in accordance with the rota is available for the remainder of the twenty-four hours of each day for calls his services from medical card holders. In addition to the district medical officers there are at least eight private doctors practising in the area, so that persons, other than medical card holders, should have little difficulty in ob-

taining the services of one of these doctors in the event of sudden illness or accident.

With regard to telephone facilities, in the event of the non-availability of a public telephone, the staff of the Health Centre has instructions that any person wishing to use the Health Centre telephone to call a doctor or ambulance be allowed to do so without delay, and this facility has in fact been availed of on several occasions. Outside of this, there is a temporary post office and a new Garda Station in Coolock".

Following discussions, it was agreed to follow-up two suggestions—

- (1) from Dr. O'Herlihy and Councillor Clinton that a central telephone number or switchboard, through which a doctor on duty could be contacted at all hours, be provided and publicised;
- (2) from Dr. Jennings that, as a casualty centre should be based at a hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital, Raheny be approached on the matter.

80/71 INSTITUTIONAL ASSISTANCE — GRIFFITH BARRACKS

The following Report No. 37/1971 from the Chief Executive Officer was noted:—

"In the period 1st January, 1971/30th June, 1971, 39 families comprising mothers and 94 children were afforded shelter and maintenance in the Casuals Section at Griffith Barracks. Of these 13 families were either returned emigrants from England or had come to Dublin from other counties in Ireland and were without accommodation. Five families were ejected squatters or had been evicted and twenty-one families were without accommodation as a result of a variety of domestic difficulties. The later category includes families who had previously been living with in-laws, families abandoned by their husbands and separated families. People are referred to the Barracks for accommodation by the Garda Síochána, Social Workers or members of the clergy and in some instances mothers with children, being aware of the facility, merely present themselves at the Barracks and request accommodation. Of the families admitted in the period mentioned fourteen were subsequently housed by the Corporation and a further seven

took their own discharge having made alternative arrangements. At 1st July, 1971 there were eighteen families consisting of 18 women and 35 children and 4 "single" women being afforded accommodation in the Barracks.

The following table shows, in respect of families accommodated on the 1st July, 1971, the date of admission for each family and the reasons they sought accommodation in the Barracks.

Admitted	Number of Families	NUMBER OF PERSONS				Total
		Housing Problems	Returned Emigrants	Domestic Reasons	Other Reasons	
February 1970	1				3	3
October 1970	1	1				1
January 1971	1		4			4
February 1971	1	4				4
March 1971	2		2			2
April 1971	3	7				7
May 1971	2			3	2	5
June 1971	7	8	14		4	26
	18	20	20	3	9	52

Nominal charges of 87½p per week for women with children and 75p per week for unaccompanied women are levied by the Board.

The cost of providing the above services varies in accordance with the demands made upon it but the large proportion of the expenditure incurred is constant irrespective of the number of persons accommodated. The following is an approximate analysis of the expenditure incurred in respect of the year ended 31st March, 1971.

Salaries and Wages	10,600
Food and Drink	1,025
Materials for washing and cleaning	35
Heating, lighting and water	4,550
Clothing and bedding	205
Repairs and maintenance	250
Telephone charges	90
Rent, rates and insurance	1,370
Miscellaneous charges	20
Total	£18,145

The average daily occupancy during the same period was 34 giving an average daily cost per person of £1.45 or £10.15 per week".

Members discussed whether the provision of this accommodation was a matter for the housing authority or the health authority but it was pointed out that, as a service provided under the Health Act, 1970, it would rank for recoupment under the new health grant arrangements.

81/71 BOARD FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE BLIND

The following Report No. 38/1971 from the Chief Executive Officer was noted:—

The following letter dated 9th July, 1971 has been received from the Department of Social Welfare:—

"I am directed by the Minister for Social Welfare to refer to your letter (ref. JJD/IS) of 25th June, 1971, and previous correspondence regarding the above and to state that the Minister for Finance, as an entirely exceptional measure to assist the Board in its financial difficulties, has agreed to the making of a non-repayable grant of an amount not exceeding £35,000 i.e., half the total sum required on the condition that the Regional Health Boards would provide an equal amount.

On the basis of the amounts (referred to in this Department's circular letter of 3 Meitheamh 1971) due from local authorities in respect of the part of the Board's working losses for the year 1970 apportioned among them in the usual manner i.e., the basis of calculation referred to at (b) of the third paragraph of your letter of 25 June 1971. the appropriate share, on this Department's reckoning, of the proposed additional grant to be made by the local authorities in the functional area of your Board would be £12,643 made up as follows:—

Dublin County Borough	$\frac{7,248.50}{27,715.50}$	x 35,000 =	£9,149
Dublin County Council	$\frac{1,985.00}{27,715.50}$	x 35,000 =	£2,506
Kildare County Council	$\frac{782.00}{27,715.50}$	x 35,000 =	£988

I am to request that urgent consideration be given to the making of a non-repayable grant, as indicated, to the Board for the Employment of the Blind, to be applied towards reduction of the overdraft. Payment should be made to the Acting Honorary Secretary, Board for the Employment of the Blind, Ardee Road, Rathmines, Dublin 6".

The Department of Health has not yet given a decision as to whether the expenditure will rank for recoument out of the Health Services Grant.

The Working Party set up by the Board had a preliminary meeting on 21st July, 1971 following which the Department of Social Welfare were asked to arrange a meeting between the Working Party and the Board for the Blind".

82/71 DISPOSAL OF PLOT AT MARINO DISPENSARY

The following Report No. 29/1971 from the Chief Executive Officer, having been circulated, was submitted:—

'The Electricity Supply Board has requested a small area of approximately 5i square yards on the north west corner of the plot attached to Marino Dispensary for the purpose of erecting a 10 K.V. Unit Type Sub-station. The Board has pointed out that it has been unable to acquire a suitable site elsewhere for its requirements. The Unit, mounted on a 7' by 7' concrete plinth, will consist of a totally enclosed metal kiosk which will be set into the existing railing and flush with its outside face with the doors opening outwards over the public footpath. Planning permission has been obtained. The Electricity Supply Board states that if the Eastern Health Board grants a lease for 100 years at a rent of five pence per annum, a fine of £75 will be paid.

The Board's Technical Officers have no objection to granting the Electricity Supply Board's request, and I am satisfied that the small area required will not affect any future development of the site.

The land at Marino is held on lease from Dublin Corporation for a term of 150 years from 31st March, 1934 at a rent of £16-80 per annum.

I propose, subject to the consent of Dublin Corporation and of the Minister for Health, that the area of 5| square yards approximately at the north west corner of the Marino Dispensary plot be leased to the Electricity Supply Board

at a fine of £75 and for a term of 100 years at a rent of five pence per annum.

This report is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946.

Section 83 provides that at the first meeting of the Board held after the expiration of ten clear days from the circulation of this report the Board may resolve that the disposal of this property as proposed shall not be carried out or that it shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the resolution. If the Board resolve that the disposal shall not be carried out, it shall not be carried out.

On the other hand, if the Board does not pass a resolution as to the manner in which the disposal should be carried out the disposal may, with the consent of the Minister for Health, be carried out in the manner set out above".

It was proposed by Councillor Hickey, seconded by Dr. Belton and unanimously resolved:—

'That the Eastern Health Board consents to the disposal of land at Marino Dispensary in accordance with the terms of Report No. 29/1971".

83/71 DISPOSAL OF SITE AT ST. ITA'S HOSPITAL

The following Report No. 30/1971 from the Chief Executive Officer, having been circulated, was submitted:—

"At a meeting on the 4th March, 1971, the Dublin Health Authority agreed in principle to make a site available at St. Ita's Hospital, Portrane, to the Donabate and District Credit Union Ltd., for the erection of permanent offices for the Union and, perhaps, at a later date, a Community Centre for the residents of the area.

The site in question measures about 30 square perches on the northern boundary of the hospital grounds adjacent to the main entrance and with road frontage. It forms part of the Portrane Demesne which was acquired by the Board of Control from Count James Considine in 1894. It is proposed, on the advice of the Valuer, to make the site available by way of licence at a rent of £50 a year. The licence will contain the normal provisions to safeguard the interests of the Board.

This report is submitted in conformity with Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946.

Section 83 provides that at the first meeting of the Eastern Health Board held after the expiration of ten clear days from the date of circulation of this report, the Board may resolve that the disposal of this property as proposed shall not be carried out. or that it shall be carried out in accordance with terms specified in the resolution.

If the Board resolves that the disposal shall not be carried out, it shall not be carried out.

On the other hand, if the Board does not pass a resolution as to the manner in which the disposal shall be carried out. the disposal may. with the consent of the Minister for Health, be carried out in the manner set out above".

It was proposed by Councillor Hickey, seconded by Dr. Belton and unanimously resolved:—

"That the Eastern Health Board consents to the disposal of a site at St. Ita's Hospital, Portrane in accordance with the terms of Report No. 30/1971".

84/71 NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TO BOARD OF DUBLIN DENTAL HOSPITAL

The following letter dated 8th July, 1971 from the Department of Health, having been circulated, was submitted:—

"I am directed by the Minister for Health to state that he has given consideration to the question of liaison between the Eastern Health Board and the Dublin Dental Hospital. The matter arose particularly in reference to a letter dated 30th September, 1971 from the Dublin Health Authority to the Board in connection with waiting-list problems. The Minister considers that it would be helpful from the point of view of liaison if the Eastern Health Board had a representative on the Dublin Dental Hospital Board.

I am accordingly to request the Board to nominate a representative. On receipt of the nomination the Minister will be prepared to make the necessary Order appointing the person nominated to be a member of the Board".

The Chairman stated that a letter regarding the need for a representative had been received from Mr. Gallivan, who represented the dental profession on the Board but who was unable to be present at the meeting.

it was proposed by Mr O'Flynn that Mr. Gallivan be nom-

It was proposed by Councillor Temple and seconded by Councillor Clinton that Councillor Hickey be nominated.

On Councillor Hickey signifying that he would be prepared to accept the nomination, Mr. O'Flynn withdrew his nomination and Councillor Hickey was unanimously nominated as the Board's representative to the Dublin Dental Hospital Board.

85/71

QUESTIONS

It was agreed that the Board approve of the Chief Executive Officer answering the questions lodged. The questions are set out hereunder—

1. Councillors Hickey, Cunningham, James Dowling and Mahon.

"Will the Chief Executive Officer report what action has been taken in connection with the County Hospital, Naas re

- (a) provision of extra monitor in Coronary Unit?
- (b) recognition of this Hospital for a medical registrar and thereby to ease the problem of medical staffing?
- (c) installation of lifts and in conjunction with this the need for new accommodation for medical and nursing staff?

REPLY:

- (a) Quotations were obtained and an order was placed for the installation of a monitor in the Coronary Unit. The monitor was delivered on the 4th instant.
- (b) Dr. Waidron, the County Physician, has been in communication with the Department of Health officials concerning the recognition of the County Hospital, Naas for a Medical Registrar.
- (c) This matter is awaiting sanction of the Minister for Health.

2. Councillors Hickey, Cunningham, James Dowling and Mahon.

"Will the Chief Executive Officer report in connection with St. Vincent's Hospital, Athy the present position re the second stage of development and if the proposals include provision for a Chapel and accommodation for staff?"

REPLY:

The present position of the Second Stage of development is that final plans were submitted to the Department of Health on 5th January, 1971. A reply was received on 8th April, 1971, giving sanction in general, subject to one or two minor alterations which have been dealt with and referred back to the Department. A further reply is awaited. The plans for the Second Stage Development include the provision of a new Chapel and a new Convent and Nurses Home.

86/71

NOTICES OF MOTION

The following motion was proposed by Councillors Dowling, Cunningham, Mahon, Hickey, Carroll, Temple, Clinton, Burke, Senator Dr. Belton, Dr. O'Herlihy and Miss Horgan:—

"That Article 2 of the Standing Orders fixing the time of monthly meetings of the Board be amended by the substitution of '5 p.m.' for '3 p.m.' and '8 p.m.' for '6 p.m.' "

The Chairman said that they again found themselves unable to deal with this item due to the insufficient number of members present. On Deputy Ryan's suggestion, it was agreed that the members' special attention be drawn in the next notice to the requirement that, in order to consider a motion to amend Standing Orders, not less than three quarters of the members must be present.

The following motion was proposed by Councillors Sweeney, Temple and Timmins and agreed:—

"Owing to the lack of Mortuary facilities at Wicklow District Hospital and the need for providing these facilities we request this Board to examine the provision of a Mortuary at this Hospital".

The following motion was proposed by Dr. O'Herlihy:—

"That at least one medically qualified person should be appointed as Programme Manager in every Health Board area".

Dr. O'Herlihy said that the Board had already accepted the management structure recommended in the McKinsey Report, and quoted extracts from it. In the course of discussion some members expressed their disagreement with the motion and others had reservations.

The Chairman asked Dr. O'Herlihy if he wished to pursue the motion.

It was agreed that the motion be marked 'noted'.

The following letter dated 29th July. 1971 from St. James's Hospital Board was read:—

"I wish to advise you that the enquiry as to whether it would be of assistance to the Hospital Board if the No. 1 Visiting Committee of the Eastern Health Board included St. James's Hospital in its programme of visits has been considered by the Executive Committee. As the Hospital Board has appointed a large Visiting Committee and a number of its members will be anxious to familiarise themselves with the Hospital and its activities, it is evident that an active programme of visitation will be adopted. In the circumstances, it will not be necessary to accept the offer of assistance which is, however, appreciated".

The meeting concluded at 5.15 p.m.

CORRECT.

EOGHAN O CAOIMH.
Chief Executive Officer.


Chairman.