

## EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

*Minutes of Proceedings of Monthly Meeting of the Eastern Health Board, held in the Boardroom, St. Brendan's Hospital, Grangegorman, on 7th February, 1974 at 6 p.m.*

*Present:*

Commissioner J. Berry	Miss Kay Kinsella
Mr. Michael E. Birmingham	Miss Mary Lacey
Councillor M. Brady	Commissioner T. Leonard
Councillor P. J. Burke	Dr. James McCormick
Councillor M. Carroll	Councillor A. Mahon
Dr. Robert Carroll	Dr. J. R. Mahon
Mr. J. Corcoran, M.B.	Dr. A. Meade
Mr. Hugh P. Corcoran	Mr. Dermot O'Flynn
Dr. J. Cullen	Commissioner James O'Keeffe
Deputy H. P. Dockrell	Mr. Martin Ruanc
Dr. J. Stephen Doyle	Councillor J. Sweeney
Mr. Kevin A. Harrington, B.D.S.	Councillor J. Temple
Commissioner Liam Hayes	Deputy G. Timmins
Councillor P. Hickey, P.C.	Deputy E. Timmons
Dr. P. C. Jennings	

*Apologies for Absence :*

Councillor Michael Cunningham, Dr. John Walker.

Councillor P. Hickey, Chairman, presided.

*Officers in Attendance :*

Mr. E. O Caoimh, <i>Chief Executive Officer</i>	Mr. R. N. Lamb, <i>Personnel Officer</i>
Mr. J.J. Nolan, <i>Deputy Chief Executive Officer</i>	Mr. P. A. Sheehan
Professor B. O'Donnell, <i>Dublin Medical Officer</i>	Mr. A. O'Brien
Professor I. Browne, <i>Chief Psychiatrist</i>	Mr. C. Mansfield
Mr. F. J. Donohue, <i>Programme Manager, Community Care</i>	Mr. J. Clarke
Mr. F.J. Elliott, <i>Planning &amp; Evaluation Officer</i>	Mr. J. Doyle
Mr. J. F. Reynolds, <i>Finance Officer</i>	Mr. H. Dunne
	Mr. F. J. McCullough
	Mr. P. J. Swords
	Mr. T. Duggan
	Miss L. O'Kelly
	Mr. K. Quinn
	Miss K. Dolan

## 2/74 CONDOLENCES

The Chairman advised the meeting of the recent deaths of Mr. M. Gallagher, who had presented the Chairman's chain of office to the Board in 1971 and who represented the Board on the Committee of Management of the Meath Hospital. Tributes were also paid to Miss E. Kiernan, Superintendent Physiotherapist, and Mr. M. Kavanagh, Senior Fitter at Cherry Orchard Hospital, who were also recently deceased. The members stood in silence as a tribute and directed that their sympathies be conveyed to the relatives of the deceased.

## 13/74 CONGRATULATIONS

The Chairman, on behalf of the members, congratulated Dr. McCormick on the publication of the Report on General Medical Practice by the Consultative Council, of which he was Chairman. He also congratulated the officers of the Welfare Department on the manner in which they looked after the recent flood victims at Portmarnock.

## 14/74 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 3rd January, 1974 having been circulated, were confirmed, as was the recommendations of the Wicklow Local Health Sub-Committee on their report dated 5th February, 1974 regarding accommodation and facilities for the County Wicklow Association r The Mentally Handicapped:—

- (a) No. 1—Meeting held at St. Columcille's Hospital on **29/1/1974.**
- (b) No. 2—Meeting held at Bru Chaoimhin on 7/1/1974.
- (c) No. 2—Meeting held at Hanbury Lane and the Old Coombe Centre on 7/1/1974.
- (d) No. 4—Meeting held at St. Loman's Hospital and Auxiliary Day Centre, Crumlin on 3/1/1974.

Councillor Temple raised the question of delays in dealing with payment to Physiotherapists for domiciliary treatment in the Wicklow area and the Chief Executive Officer undertook to endeavour to have this matter resolved as quickly as possible.

## 16/74 QUESTION

On a proposal by Councillor H. P. Dockrell, seconded by Councillor P. J. Burke, it was unanimously resolved that the Chief Executive Officer answer the question lodged:—

Question submitted by Commissioner L. Hayes:

"What arrangements are made between Hospitals and Dublin Fire Brigade Ambulance Service with regard to

accident cases, and what functions, if any, have we in the matter."

*Reply:*

"Under Section 57 of the Health Act, 1970 the Health Board may provide an ambulance service for the transport of patients to hospitals, subject to any directions of the Minister.

The Board has an arrangement with Dublin Fire Brigade whereby the Brigade maintains an ambulance service on behalf of the Board for the transport of accident cases to one of the hospitals equipped and staffed for the reception and treatment of such patients. These are Voluntary Hospitals which are not run by the Health Board though, of course, the Board makes approved payments for eligible accident cases treated in these hospitals.

The Fire Brigade ambulance service is aware of all the hospitals which can treat accident cases. Not all of these hospitals are on duty between 6 p.m. and 9 a.m. on week-days and at week-ends. Since 1967 five Dublin hospitals have operated, in consultation with the Department of Health, a rota system for the reception of accident cases at night-time and at week-ends. The rota provides that one or two hospitals on the south-side and one hospital on the north-side are on duty each night. The hospitals involved are Jervis Street, Mater, Dr. Steevens, Meath and St. Vincent's. St. Laurence's Hospital has recently been added to the accident rota for the north city and it is expected they will participate more fully in the reception of accident cases when additional approved staff and equipment are obtained.

In addition to the above, James Connolly Memorial Hospital has facilities for the reception and treatment of accident cases from St. Laurence's Hospital.

Details of the number of ambulance calls handled by the Fire Brigade Service and the cost to the Board are as follows:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of calls</i>	<i>Cost</i>
1970/71 . . . . .	18,013 . . . . .	£66,126
1971/72 . . . . .	19,337 . . . . .	£87,581
1972/73 . . . . .	21,965 . . . . .	£106,224
1973/74 . . . . .	22,000 (Est.) . . . . .	£149,518

The Department of Health is considering, in consultation with the Boards of St. James's and James Connolly Memorial Hospitals, the setting up of accident treatment departments in those hospitals.

The Board operates its own accident ambulance service from St. Columcille's Hospital, which has an accident department, with the support of the Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade Service."

17/74      FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF GENERAL  
HOSPITAL SERVICE

The following Report of the Working Party on the above subject together with the views of the Local Health Committees thereon as set out hereunder were submitted:—

" 1. In a letter to the Eastern Health Board requesting the nomination of members to form part of a Working Party (Minute C1/73 refers) to study Comhairle na n-Ospideal's report on the above subject, the Minister directed that the Eastern Health Board should not consider the report of the Working Party until the five Local Health Committees had first been consulted for their views.

I set out hereunder the report of the Working Party, prepared by Mr. Martin, Chief Officer of Comhairle na n-Ospideal, and the views of four of the Local Health Committees. The fifth, Dublin County Local Health Committee, will not be considering the report until their next meeting (4th February) and their views will be available for the Board at its monthly meeting on the 7th February. The Board have to consider the Working Party's report and the views of the Local Health Committees. The Board's views will then be conveyed to the Minister, as well as the views of the Local Health Committees where the latter's views are different to the Board's. It will be noted that Local Health Committees approve in principle the development plan, with reservations about the future status of some existing hospitals.

2. *Report of Working Party*

"It was agreed at the outset of the meeting that discussion should be concentrated on the recent statement by the Minister for Health and Social Welfare and accompanying Report on Future Development of General Hospital Services in the Dublin City area prepared by Comhairle na n-Ospideal. Following a lengthy discussion, the Working Group reached general agreement for the acceptance, in broad outline, of the Report prepared by the Comhairle. General agreement was also reached on the need for linkage arrangements between smaller hospitals and the major hospitals proposed in the

Report. The smaller hospitals mentioned in the discussion were St. Michael's Hospital, Dun Laoghaire; St. Columcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown; Monkstown Hospital and the County Hospital, Naas.

The public representatives who attended the meeting expressed concern at the small number of representatives of the Eastern Board suggested for inclusion in the membership of the Special Joint Boards to be established in North Dublin and South Dublin.

A similar letter is being sent to the Dublin Regional Hospital Board and to Comhairle na n-Ospideal.

G. P. MARTIN,  
*Chief Officer.*

**Present :**

<i>Eastern Health Board</i>	<i>Dublin Regional Hospital Board</i>	<i>Comhairle na n-Ospideal</i>
Comm. J. Berry	Prof. W.. F. O'Dwyer (Chairman)	Dr. H. E. Counihan
Dr. J. Mahon	Mr. P. J. Clarke	Prof. P. Fitzgerald (Vice-Chairman)
Cllr. M. Carroll	Mr. Daniel Hogan, M.C.C.	Mr. B. Herlihy
Miss M. Lacey		
Cllr. M. Brady		
Cllr. A. Mahon		
Cllr. J. Temple		
Cllr. J. Sweeney	<i>Apology</i>	
Dr. A. Meade		
Deputy H. P. Dockrell	Mr. M. J. McGuinness, M.C.C.	
Comm. L. Hayes (Vice-Chairman)		
Mr. J. J. Nolan. <i>Programme Manager.</i>		

*Apologies*

Mr. J. Corcoran  
Mr. P. Hickey  
(Chairman)  
Mr. E. O Caoimh  
(C.E.O.)

*Professor B. Chubb presided.'*

3. *Views of Local Health Committees*

*Dublin City Committee*

This Local Health Committee accepts report of Working Party in principle but feel that sufficient attention has not been given to the provision of adequate maternity hospital facilities at centres in the north-north/east side of Dublin including St. Joseph's, Raheny; that family doctors should have access to their patients in maternity hospitals and in other treatment centres in the Dublin area, and that existing local facilities at the Meath Hospital, Sir Patrick Dun's, Baggot Street and

Mercers be not downgraded. It further expresses concern at the small number of Eastern Health Board representatives suggested for inclusion on the membership of the Special Joint Boards to be established in North Dublin and South Dublin.

*Dun Laoghaire Committee*

This Committee accepts the report of the Working Party in principle on the understanding that the existing level of services including admission of acute cases to St. Michael's Hospital, Monkstown Hospital and St. Columcille's are not downgraded. The members also feel it is necessary to have representatives from the Local Health Committees and the above cited hospitals on the Special Joint Boards.

*Kildare Committee*

This Committee agrees *in principle* with the report of Comhairle na n-Ospideal submitted on the understanding that the implementation of that report will not result in any downgrading of the Kildare County Hospital, Naas.

*Wicklow*

This Committee agrees in principle with the proposed developments as set out in the report of An Comhairle and the report of the Working Party on the understanding that there will be no curtailment of the existing hospital facilities at St. Columcille's, St. Michael's, Dun Laoghaire and Monkstown Hospitals and in particular that facilities at St. Columcille's should continue to be improved and augmented.

*Dublin County Local Health Committee*

That this Committee accepts the report in principle on the understanding that St. Columcille's Hospital is not downgraded. They feel that the same principle should apply to St. Mary's, Naas; Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda, and St. Michael's Hospital, Dun Laoghaire. It considers that James Connolly Memorial Hospital Board should be represented on the Special Joint Boards for North Dublin, and that greater representation of the Eastern Health Board should be provided for on these Joint Boards.

In a wide ranging discussion in which all members participated it was clear that it was the unanimous wish of the Board that the smaller local hospitals such as at Naas, Loughlinstown, Dun Laoghaire, Monkstown and Baltinglass should be neither phased out or downgraded. It was also evident that many members felt that the Comhairle Report was inadequately researched and that some of its conclusions were open to doubt. Some members were also critical of the abbreviated

nature of the Working Party Report and the relative vagueness of its findings. With regard to representation on the proposed South Dublin Hospitals Board and North Dublin Hospitals Board, it was unanimously agreed that there should be six nominees of the Eastern Health Board on each Board and that the James Connolly Board should also have representation on the North Dublin Hospitals Board.

Mr. Nolan replied to the various points raised by members and pointed out that in his main report to the Board in February, 1972 he had emphasised the need for retaining local hospitals to act as community clearance stations and so facilitate local residents as well as obviating many unnecessary admissions to the major central hospitals. He also outlined views as to the manner and the time scale in which the projected development would take place and the beneficial inevitable linkage of local hospitals with the major units.

After the Chairman had decided that a proposed amendment rejecting the report was in fact a direct negative to the original proposal, the following motion proposed by Cllr. J. Temple, seconded by Cllr. H. P. Dockrell, was carried, on a vote, by 18 to 11:—

"That the Report of the Working Party be adopted in principle subject to simultaneous development on equal scale of complementary community and primary health services and to the views expressed by the Local Health Committees. It also stressed the need for much greater representation of the Eastern Health Board nominees on the special North and South Dublin Joint Hospital Board."

#### VOTING FOR

Comm. J. Berry, Cllr. M. Carroll, Dr. R. Carroll, Mr. J. Corcoran, Mr. H. P. Corrigan, Deputy H. P. Dockrell, Dr. J. S. Doyle, Mr. K. Harrington, Comm. Liam Hayes, Cllr. Patrick Hickey, Miss M. Lacey, Dr. J. R. Mahon, Mr. Dermot O'Flynn, Mr. M. Ruane, Cllr. J. Sweeney, Cllr. J. Temple, Deputy G. Timmins, Deputy E. Timmons.

#### VOTING AGAINST

Mr. E. Birmingham, Cllr. M. Brady, Cllr. P. J. Burke, Dr. J. Cullen, Dr. P. C. Jennings, Miss K. Kinsella, Dr. J. McCormick, Cllr. A. Mahon, Dr. A. Meade, Comm. J. O'Keeffe, Cllr. J. Guinan.

It was also agreed that the Minister should be made aware in the letter to be sent to him of the divergent views of the members on the report of the Working Party.

18/74

## PROGRESS REPORT

The following Reports No. 6/1974 and 6a/1974 from the Deputy Chief Executive Officer were submitted:—

*"Telephones:*

Following further representations to the Department of Posts and Telegraphs in regard to the inadequacies of the existing services to the Hospitals at Wicklow, Rathdrum and Daltinglass, as taken over by the Eastern Health Board in 1871, the following is the position:—

*Wicklow:*

Following recent representations made to the Department of Posts and Telegraphs an additional line has been made available to the Hospital during the past few weeks. A further examination of the position has been made by the Department and there are indications that with the two lines a number of calls continue "to be lost". Accordingly, arrangements are now in hands to install an additional exchange line and the position will continue to be kept under review.

*Rathdrum :*

There is only one telephone line to the present Hospital. Four additional lines and one full internal telephone system is on order for the new Hospital.

*Baltinglass:*

There is only one telephone line to this Hospital but following recent representations by the Board to the Department of Posts and Telegraphs it has been agreed to supply four additional lines to the Hospital. One of these lines will be an out-of-area connection to the automatic exchange at Castledermot.

With the improvements in the telephone facilities as outlined above access to the Hospitals should be adequate.

*BUILDING PROGRAMME:**Welfare Homes:*

The Committee were advised at the last meeting that there were some delays in the completion of the Home at Bray. Following representations made to the Contractors it has now been indicated that the building will be finished in mid-March.



The Board has purchased most of the furnishings, cooking equipment, linen, etc. and these are being held in store.

The Department's sanction to the acceptance of tenders for the new Welfare Homes at Clonskeagh and Ballymun has been received and the Architect is arranging to have a commencement made on these two projects. The planning of further Homes at Naas, St. Patrick's Home, Navan Rd., Harold's Cross and the Dun Laoghaire area is in progress and a further report will be submitted.

*Baltinglass:*

At a site meeting last week the Architect reported that, despite delays caused by bad weather and the current supply position, the Contractor hoped to have the work completed on schedule at the end of March. Following investigations of the present inadequate sewage disposal system, the Board's Engineering Officer has stated that a new sewage treatment plant must be provided at once to cater for the existing Hospital and the new building. Arrangements are in hands to have this plant installed as quickly as possible: Following an examination of the existing facilities for staff, particularly in view of the increased staffing arrangements which will follow on the completion of the new wing, the County Medical Officer has recommended the provision of improved dining facilities and change rooms for staff. It will also be necessary to provide a new Mortuary and new access to the Hospital. These proposals are at present under examination by the Architect and an application is being made to the Department of Health for additional finance.

*St. Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum :*

Despite very adverse weather conditions over the past three months and difficulties being created by the current supply position (materials and labour), reasonable progress continues to be made on this scheme. The Architect has advised that, despite these difficulties, the contract can still be completed almost on schedule, i.e., approximately 1st April next. Since the last meeting of the Committee discussions have taken place in the Department of Health with the County Medical Officer, the Consultants and the Board's Officers: Following these the Department conceded the Board's application, as so ably prepared and presented by Mr. P. J. Swords, for additional bed accommodation, the renovation of St. Kevin's, staff accommodation, new Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy Departments, Mortuary, stores, etc., which were not included in the present scheme. These additional works will bring the

bed complement of the Hospital to approximately 150/160, with full supporting services. Preparation of the final plans for this work are going ahead and it is expected that, provided no unforeseen difficulties, including the provision of finance, arise, the work should be completed during the present year.

*County Hospital, Naas :*

The Main Contractor has now completed work on this project and the two new lifts have been commissioned.

*Staff Accommodation, Naas:*

The Board has completed negotiations for the purchase of six new houses on the housing development adjacent to the County Hospital and it is expected that these will be ready for occupation about the end of April.

*General Development of Hospital Facilities—Naas :*

The Architect is completing his survey of the Hospital site and a draft plan will be available at the Board meeting on outline proposals for a new kitchen, staff facilities, engineering and general offices, stores and a new 30-bed unit for geriatrics.

*St. Vincent's Hospital, Athy :*

Satisfactory progress is being made on the new Convent, Nurses' Home and Mortuary buildings despite difficulties which are arising in supplies, transport, bad weather, etc. The Architect has reported that this scheme of works should be completed during May next. Outline proposals for the major development in St. Vincent's Hospital were submitted some time ago to the Department of Health and the Department is being pressed to approve of the Board's request to proceed with the detailed planning of this scheme.

*Ambulance Survey:*

Following representations to the Public Services Department in regard to the urgency of completing the ambulance survey which commenced last year, this Department has assigned staff to complete the survey work in the Wicklow area and their report should be available within the next couple of months. In the meantime, the Board has also placed firm orders for additional and replacement vehicles for its ambulance services generally including the Wicklow area. Ground tests are also in progress in County Wicklow in connection with proposals to extend the Radio-Telephone system to cover the remaining ambulance services operated by the Board."

*Central Mental Hospital—Proposed New Unit*

"At its April, 1971, meeting the Board considered a letter dated 26th March, 1971, from the Department of Health intimating that the Minister proposed to make an Order under Section 44 of the Health Act, 1970, transferring the administration of the Central Mental Hospital to the Eastern Health Board as from 15th June, 1971. The Board appointed a group to visit the hospital and report back, their report, and another from the Chief Psychiatrist, being considered and adopted at a special meeting held in committee on 6th May, 1971.

In his report, the Chief Psychiatrist recommended that the Board should seek a positive commitment from the State to make funds available to enable new buildings to be provided as a matter of urgency. In addition to a unit of about 25 beds which had already been approved in principle for the treatment of drug addiction, he advocated the provision of a special unit of about 50 beds for psychopathic personalities, as recommended by the Commission of Inquiry on Mental Illness, and a further unit of about 30 beds for the remainder of a reduced patient population as estimated at that time. The object of these proposals was to enable the use of the existing old building for its present purpose to be phased out over a few years and to replace it by new buildings in which intensive modern psychiatric treatment techniques could be applied in conditions affording better facilities for observation and greater security.

The Department of Health, by letter dated 21st June, 1971, advised that the Minister was prepared to make funds available to provide a unit of 25 beds for drug abusers and an additional unit of 30 beds for custody patients. The Minister considered that the question of the provision of a further unit of 50 beds should be deferred until some experience was gained of the operation of the hospital with the new units and until more reliable estimates could be made of the number and type of custody patients for whom special provision would be necessary in the future.

The Minister was anxious that the new unit for custody patients should be very carefully planned, so that it could be used to the best advantage, incorporating modern ideas for the care and treatment of patients, while maintaining adequate security. As experience in this field was limited in this country, the Minister suggested the formation of a small Working Party of representatives of the Eastern Health Board, the Department of Health and, possibly, the Department of Justice, to examine the problem and, in particular, to draw up a brief

for the Architect, who would be instructed later to prepare the necessary plans. It was recognised that it would be necessary for the Working Party to gather information about what is done in other countries and that for this purpose one or more members might have to visit centres abroad.

At its July, 1971, meeting the Board agreed to the formation of the Working Party and nominated three members and the Chairman of the then Visiting Committee of the Central Mental Hospital—this was prior to the transfer of administration to the Board, which did not take place until 1st September, 1971. The Working Party held its first meeting on the 4th October, 1971, and appointed a sub-committee to collect relevant information with a view to inspecting modern facilities. The deliberations of the Working Party were concluded at a meeting on 22nd December, 1973, when a comprehensive report from the Sub-Committee was considered and adopted.

In summary, the Sub-Committee reported that as a body it had visited 13 centres in Great Britain, Holland, Denmark and Sweden. Three individual members, while on other official or private visits, inspected a further 9 centres in the U.S.A. and one in Norway. The report recommended the provision of a centre in the grounds of the Dundrum Hospital with places for 30 young disturbed persons, male and female, ranging in age from about 15 to 22 years, whose behaviour is likely to lead to criminal proceedings against them. The Centre would be under the direction of the Director of the Eastern Health Board Forensic Service, forming an integral part of that service. While its primary purpose would be to treat young persons in detention, it would also be used, in selected cases, for the assessment of disturbed young persons who might not have come before the Courts. The various sources of admission would include the Courts, the Central Mental Hospital, other mental hospitals and the various institutions and welfare services operated by the Department of Justice.

The report contains criteria for admission to the centre and outlines the content of the programmes to be developed and the considerations upon which these are based. Proposals for the various grades of staff required for the implementation of these programmes are also put forward.

The report contains a detailed brief of the manner in which a centre based on the proposed programmes and staffing arrangements might be designed. This brief was prepared by Mr. F. Jackman, Architect, Department of Health, who was a member of the Working Party and of the Sub-Committee, and who illustrated his concepts by drawings which were submitted with the report.

Finally, the Working Party recommended that a further unit of 30 beds be erected to replace an equivalent number of beds in areas of the existing hospital building which are below normally accepted standards. This unit would be planned on a more usual model for disturbed patients.

The cost of providing the proposed new buildings will be met in full from State funds. In order that the project may proceed with the least possible delay, the Architect has been instructed to prepare the necessary plans in accordance with the recommendations of the Working Party."

Councillor Mahon complimented Mr. Swords on the manner in which he had succeeded in having the Board's objectives at the County Hospital, Naas implemented. On a proposal by Mr. D. O'Flynn, seconded by Mr. H. P. Corrigan, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

"That Report No. 6/1974 and 6a/1974 be noted."

#### 19/74 CREATION OF ADDITIONAL POSTS

The following Report No. 7/1974 from the Deputy Chief Executive Officer was submitted:—

" (a) *County Hospital, Naas*

In pursuance of the general policy of having Night Superintendents instead of rotating this duty among Ward Sisters, I propose to request the approval of the Minister for Health to the creation of two offices of Night Superintendent for the County Hospital, Naas. There is sufficient provision in the current Estimate to cover the net additional expenditure involved.

(b) *St. Patrick's Home*

As a result of a detailed review of the staffing at the above Home, I am satisfied that it is necessary to create one additional office of Ward Sister (to deputise for the Sister-in-Charge) and two offices of Night Superintendent. The approval of the Minister for Health will be required. Additional expenditure of approximately £1,500 in the period ending 31st March, 1974 will be involved for which provision has not been made in the current Estimate.

(c) *Health Centre, Kilbarrack*

This new Health Centre having been opened it is necessary to create one additional employment of Receptionist, one of Porter and one of cleaner for which provision has been made in the current Estimate.

(d) *Welfare Home, Bray*

It is expected that the Welfare Home in Bray will soon be available for opening and I propose, with the consent of the Board, to employ a Housekeeper and one Assistant Cook to enable arrangements to go ahead for the reception of patients as soon as possible.

(e) *District Hospital, Wicklow*

It has been necessary due to pressure of work to employ a Receptionist for the District Hospital in Wicklow for which no provision has been made in the current Estimates. I now seek approval of the Board."

On a proposal by Councillor J. Sweeney, seconded by Comm. L. Hayes, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:—

"That we, the Eastern Health Board, consent to the proposals contained in Report No. 7/1974 and authorise the expenditure of £1,500 in the current financial year in excess of that provided in the Estimate of Expenses for 1973/74 under the following:—

<i>Service</i>	<i>Purpose of Expenditure</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Health	Board Hospitals	£1,500"

20/74                   RECOMMENDATIONS OF LOCAL  
HEALTH COMMITTEES

The following Report No. 8/1974 from the Deputy Chief Executive Officer was submitted:—

*"Dun Laoghaire*

- (a) "That we again approach the Eastern Health Board to utilise the open space at St. Patrick's Crescent, Monks-town Farm for a Health Centre or similar use—if necessary to receive a deputation."
- (b) "That the Eastern Health Board be requested to set up in Dun Laoghaire an administrative office equal in status to that in the pilot scheme project."
- (c) "Proposal that the Eastern Health Board proceed with the dual appointment of the Dun Laoghaire Director of Community Care and Medical Officer of Health."
- (d) "That a site adjoining Cluain Mhuire be made available to the Local Community Organisation, known as the Guardian Angel Community for Community activities and ask that the Chief Executive Officer report on this matter at the next meeting of this Committee."

Wicklow

- (a) "That we ask the Eastern Health Board to provide funds to build Welfare Homes in Wicklow and Arklow to relieve the pressure on beds in St. Colman's Hospital."
- (b) "Because of undue delay we hereby recommend to the Eastern Health Board that the completion of additions to Blessington Clinic be now regarded as a matter of urgency."
- (c) "That the Eastern Health Board be urged to take the necessary steps to acquire the site in Coolattin which had been offered to them for the erection of a clinic."

Kildare

"That this Committee express concern that the medical staffing at Naas Hospital is not adequate and request the Eastern Health Board to press for extra medical staff and if necessary to ask the Minister for Health to receive a deputation from the Board for this purpose." "

On a proposal by Councillor Carroll, seconded by Deputy H. P. Dockrell, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That the recommendations contained in Report No. 8/1974 be adopted."

21/74

## MOTION

The following motion proposed by Dr. A. Meade was seconded by Mr. D. O'Flynn:—

"That the Eastern Health Board place on record their appreciation of the positive work performed by the Voluntary Organisation known as Community Health Education. As an earnest of this appreciation the Board recommends a grant of £10,000 to assist this programme of work, which encourages the *individual* towards more healthy living and, by development projects, enables *Communities* to change attitudes, and cope with the stress and strain of our rapidly changing society."

After a brief discussion it was agreed that the matter should be deferred in accordance with standing orders to the next meeting when a report from the Chief Executive Officer would be available to enable the members to consider the matter more fully.

## 22/74 MEMBERSHIP OF AN BORD ALTRANAIS

The list of current members of the above Board was circulated for the information of the members and noted.

## 23/74 CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter dated 24th January, 1974 from the Department of Health conveying the information that the Minister was making a capital grant of £20,000 to Sr. Concilio's Welfare Home for Alcoholics in Athy and that a capitation rate of £10 per week was also approved subject to a maximum stay of 6 weeks and two admissions—the arrangement can be reviewed in 12 months. The information was warmly received and Mr. McCullough was congratulated for bringing the application to fruition.
2. Letter dated 23rd January, 1974 from An Bord Altranaís advising that they had suggested to the Minister for Health that the time is now opportune to appoint a commission to enquire into the whole question of nurse training in Ireland with special consideration to the need for the State Enrolled Nurse qualification for Ireland. The letter was noted.
3. Letter dated 18th January, 1974 from Dublin County Council requesting that the Public Assistance Services for the County for the nine months, i.e., 1st April, 1974 to 31st December, 1974 should be administered by the Eastern Health Board on its behalf. This was agreed unanimously.
4. Letter dated 2nd January, 1974 from the Western Health Board containing resolution re right of appeal by Health Boards to the Minister against decisions of Comhairle na n-Ospideal was read. It was agreed to consider this resolution as a special item at the next meeting.
5. Letter dated 16th January, 1974 from Wicklow County Council advising that it had appointed Mr. Donal McEvoy, Baltyboys, Blessington to fill the vacancy on the Wicklow Local Health Committee caused by the death of Cllr. M. Deering. The letter was noted.

## 24/74 ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chief Executive Officer advised the meeting that he had formally assigned duties of Press Relations to Mr. R. N. Lamb, Personnel Officer and that the Local Appointments Commission



had recommended Mr. E. Keyes, Programme Manager, Western Health Board to fill the post of Programme Manager, Special Hospital Care and that Mr. Keyes would take up duty on 1st April next.

The meeting concluded at 8.35 p.m.

CORRECT:

EOGHAN O CAOIMH,  
*Chief Executive Officer.*

*Chairman.*