

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 March, 1974 at 6 p.m.

Present:

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

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. F. J. Elliott, <i>Planning & Evaluation Officer</i> |
| Prof. Ivor Browne, <i>Chief Psychiatrist</i> | Mr. F. J. McCullough |
| Prof. Brendan O'Donnell, <i>Dublin Medical Officer</i> | Mr. P. J. Swords |
| Mr. F. J. Donohue, <i>Programme Manager, Community Care</i> | Mr. J. Doyle |
| Mr. J. F. Reynolds, <i>Finance Officer</i> | Mr. K. Quinn |
| | Miss L. O'Kelly |
| | Miss K. Dolan |

25/74 CONDOLENCES

The Chairman advised the meeting of the recent death of Mrs. M. Nolan, mother of Mr. J. J. Nolan, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, and also of the death of Professor P. J. Beckett, Dean of Trinity College and Clinical Director, Psychiatric Unit, St. James's/St. Patrick's Hospitals. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect and directed that the Board's sympathy should be conveyed to the families of the deceased.

26/74 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the 7th February were confirmed on a proposal by Councillor H. P. Dockrell, seconded by Councillor P. J. Burke, subject to the inclusion of Councillor J. Guinan on the attendance record. Mr. Ruane raised the question of the report of the working party on the Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum and it was agreed to circulate this for the next meeting of the Board.

27/74 PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEES

The reports of the proceedings of the following Committees, having been circulated, were confirmed:—

- (a) *No. 1 Visiting Committee meeting held at St. Colman's, Rathdrum on 21st February, 1974.*
- (b) *No. 2 Visiting Committee meeting held at St. Brendan's Hospital on 7th February, 1974.*
- (c) *No. 4 Visiting Committee meeting held at Usher's Island and St. Loman's Hospital on 7th February, 1974.*

28/74 DEVELOPMENT OF PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES

The following Report No. 9/1974 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:—

"At the December, 1973 meeting, proposals for the development of Newcastle Hospital as a mental handicap centre, set out in Report No. 54/1973, were adopted. The proposals have since been submitted to the Department of Health for the Minister's approval.

Arising from this development, I have now received from Professor Browne, Chief Psychiatrist, a further report with

regard to psychiatric services for the Wicklow area which reads as follows:

In a letter dated 19th January, 1973 the Department of H&alth asked that several aspects of the Board's original proposals for the development of Newcastle Hospital as a mental handicap institution should be re-considered. These proposals involved the retention of one of the existing 40-bed buildings as a psychiatric unit.

A detailed re-appraisal of the proposals has been carried out in consultation with the Planning and Evaluation Officer and other appropriate officers and a number of possible means of providing the balance (100) of the 170 new beds authorised by the Minister for Health, other than at St. Ita's, for adult mental handicapped patients have been considered. The conclusion arrived at was that these 100 additional places should be provided at Newcastle Hospital and that the two existing units should cater solely for the same class of patient. Some new accommodation for severely handicapped children is also envisaged subject to the Minister's approval.

This raises the question of providing alternative facilities elsewhere for the active psychiatric needs of County Wicklow and also accommodation for the present long-stay psychiatric population of Newcastle. With regard to the first of these needs, in earlier reports a tentative proposal was put forward for the establishment of an active treatment unit in the Bray area at a cost of approximately £50,000 in a large house which would be bought for this purpose. While the quest for suitable properties for this purpose has continued, my conclusion is that the best way to provide active psychiatric care for Wicklow patients would be to establish a special unit at St. Columcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown. The possibility of allocating a number of existing beds at St. Columcille's for this purpose has been examined but, with present demands on the services of the hospital this would not be feasible. The only alternative is to build a new unit of approximately 20 beds there. This development would have a great deal to recommend it, would not give rise to any great staff problems, and would be in harmony with the Commission's recommendation that active psychiatric units should be established in general hospitals.

The intention with regard to the long-stay population of the hospital was to set up a hostel in the Bray area as part of the general programme for the establishment of group homes and long-stay hostels in each catchment area. At the

moment consideration is being given to the purchase of a large house which is for sale in Bray which would provide the back-up long-stay hostel and other facilities required, including clinics and approved child services, and this will be the subject of a separate report at a later date.

I strongly recommend that the approval of the Department of Health be sought to the provision of a 20-bed active psychiatric unit at St. Columcille's Hospital. A unit of this size should be adequate for the needs of County Wicklow. At present there are 17 acute cases in Newcastle, as will be seen from the analysis of the patients in hospital on the 6th February set out hereunder:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Persons in need of psychiatric treatment—Acute | 17 |
| —Long stay | 12 |
| Geriatric | .16 |
| Mental Handicap | .26 |
| Social problem cases | .18 |

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With such an active treatment unit at St. Columcille's backed up by a long-stay hostel, combined with day treatment and child facilities, and the day centre at An Lar, a reasonably comprehensive range of psychiatric services would be available which would release Newcastle Hospital from its present mixed use and enable it to be developed as a mental handicap centre. This would leave the problem of placement of the present "geriatric" patients in Newcastle. This could be resolved by an exchange with a number of mental handicap patients now in St. Colman's Home, Rathdrum.

A full geriatric service, including accommodation for the disturbed geriatric, will need to be built up as a corollary to the development of the psychiatric and mental handicap services.

I propose, with the agreement of the Board, to request the Minister's approval for the construction of a 20-bed active psychiatric unit at St. Columcille's Hospital as recommended by the Chief Psychiatrist."

After a discussion during which Professor Browne explained the need for the proposed unit at St. Columcille's, the following resolution proposed by Councillor M. Carroll, seconded by Dr. J. Walker, was unanimously adopted:—

"That the proposals outlined in Report No. 9/1S74 be adopted."

29/74 CENTRAL MENTAL HOSPITAL-
 TRANSFER OF PATIENTS

The following Report No. 10/1974 from the Chief Psychiatrist was submitted:—

"At the December, 1973, meeting of the Board, the Chairman drew attention to an urgent communication he had received from the Baliyfermot Information Centre about a situation which had been created by a seriously disturbed patient who had absconded from one of our psychiatric hospitals. The patient in question presented a serious menace to his mother who, for her own protection, was forced to seek refuge, with the help of the staff of the Information Centre, in a city hospital. In commenting on the matter at the December meeting, I advised the Board that it was virtually impossible to reconcile the liberal therapeutic regime which we have been developing over the years in our psychiatric hospitals with the need to provide simultaneously, in the same hospital, any real degree of security or protection for the small number of seriously aggressive and potentially homicidal patients who are in our care. Their very presence in a hospital hampers the therapeutic programme for the other patients.

I have drawn attention to this problem before, in particular in my report on the transfer of the administration of the Central Mental Hospital to the Eastern Health Board. In that report I referred to the 1966 Report of the Commission of Inquiry on Mental illness which contained recommendations regarding custody patients, psychopaths, homicidal and very violent patients. With regard to homicidal and very violent patients the Report contained an outline of the only procedure now available for their transfer to the Central Mental Hospital and recommended that transfers should be on medical certification rather than as a result of judicial procedure. In this connection it should be noted that our most urgent problem is created by those very violent patients who, while disrupting the day-to-day programme of the hospitals, do not commit an indictable offence and, therefore, cannot be dealt with even under the present undesirable criminal procedure. The relevant sections of the Commission's Report read as follows:—

General

128. Under Section 207 of the Mental Treatment Act, 1945, a patient in a district mental hospital may be charged with an indictable offence, before a Justice of the District Court sitting in such district mental hospital. If, on the basis of the evidence given, the Justice is of opinion that there is prima facie evidence that the person committed the offence and would, if

placed on trial, be unfit to plead, the Justice may by order certify that the person is suitable for transfer to the Central Mental Hospital. The Inspector of Mental Hospitals then examines the patient, who is kept, meanwhile, in the district mental hospital concerned, and, after consideration of the report of the Inspector, the Minister for Health may, if he so thinks fit, by order direct and authorise the transfer of the person to the Central Mental Hospital. The Minister may also order that such person be sent back to the district mental hospital from which he was transferred. When a person sent to the Central Mental Hospital under this Section is certified by the Resident Physician and Governor of the hospital and the Inspector of Mental Hospitals to have ceased to be of unsound mind, the person concerned must be discharged.

Need for Change

129. The Commission considers that there is a weakness in the provisions in Section 207 in that a person cannot be transferred to the Central Mental Hospital until he has committed an indictable offence. Some persons may be known to be very violent or homicidal, but if they are carefully watched they may be prevented from committing indictable offences: This may involve the continuous assignment of a nurse to an individual patient and may necessitate the creation of security measures which would otherwise not be required. The number of persons involved is small, but their presence in a district mental hospital can create serious difficulties and can have adverse effects on the hospital and on other patients. *The Commission considers that there should be provision for the transfer of such patients to the Central Mental Hospital and that such patients and patients at present dealt with under Section 207 should be transferred as a result of medical certification, rather than as a result of judicial procedure.* Not all violent or homicidal patients need to be transferred from district mental hospitals—there are various degrees of violence and both violent and homicidal tendencies may be transient phases. The decision to transfer a patient from a district mental hospital to the Central Mental Hospital is a serious one and it is essential that some formal procedure should be followed so that the interests of the patient, of the district mental hospital and of the Central Mental Hospital are all given full consideration.'

The Commission went on to make detailed recommendations including one for the provision of a special unit primarily for aggressive psychopaths.

While plans are in preparation to provide a new unit at Dundrum which would accommodate the younger aggressive and unmanageable patients, it is regrettable that legislation has not yet been introduced to give effect to the Commission's recommendation that a system should be established for transferring to the Central Mental Hospital, on medical certificate, those homicidal and very violent patients whose behaviour is such that they cannot be catered for in the ordinary psychiatric hospital.

While I am not in full agreement with the details of the procedure recommended by the Commission, I would urge that action should be taken without delay to remedy the present very unsatisfactory situation."

After a discussion to which Deputy O'Connell, Dr. Jennings and Mr. Corcoran contributed, it was unanimously resolved on a proposal by Mr. H. Corrigan, seconded by Dr. McCormick, that the Board adopt Report No. 10/1974.

The Chairman suggested that Board members who were members of the Oireachtas should consider the feasibility of having the necessary legislation as proposed in the Report introduced by way of a Private Members Bill.

30/74

BURTON HALL

The following Report *Ho.* 11/1974 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:—

"I wish to advise the Board that Dublin County Council has agreed to lease Burton Hall, Foxrock, to the Health Board for a period of 5 years and that the approval of the Minister for Health has been obtained. The premises consist of a large residence in good repair, outoffices, a large separate building formerly used as an indoor training arena, substantial gardens and pleasure grounds. They were obtained by the County Council on the acquisition of the Hume Dudgeon estate which is zoned for office and light industry development. The rent proposed by the County Council is £4,000 per annum, which will be subject to the approval of the Minister for Health in the light of the specific purposes for which the premises will be used.

Burton Hall provides an exceptionally favourable prospect in the matter of community based services for which facilities in the area are very limited. It will be necessary to decide priorities and to consider also how requirements of the

psychiatric service may be met. A further and more detailed report will be made as soon as possible.

Pending the commencement of services the engagement of a Caretaker will be necessary."

After a discussion to which Mr. Ruane and Councillor Hayes contributed, the following motion proposed by Councillor M. Carroll and seconded by Dr. Doyle was unanimously passed:—

"That the proposals outlined in Report No. 11/1974 be adopted."

31/74 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM LOCAL HEALTH COMMITTEES

The following Report No. 12/1974 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:—

"KUdare:

- (a) That the guidelines for determination of full eligibility under the Health Act, 1970 be reviewed within 3 months.
- (b) Recommends to the Eastern Health Board to request the Department of Health to sanction immediately the outline plans for Phase III of the reconstruction of St. Vincent's Hospital, Athy.

Dublin County:

- (a) Recommends that the Eastern Health Board consider the employment of Dieticians and Home Economics Teachers in its Health Services and the making of provision for post graduate training.
- (b) That this Committee recommends that the Minister for Social Welfare gives urgent consideration to the provision of free transport and electricity to people between the age of 65 and 69 years whose income or social welfare benefits are less than or equal to old age pension benefits."

After a discussion on each item, hereunder are the decisions agreed to by the members:—

Kildare:

- (a) It was agreed that this recommendation could not be complied with because of the administrative difficulties and because of the upset that changes in the guidelines would cause in the other Health Board areas if revised at such a short interval.
- (b) Agreed.

Dublin County:

- (a) Agreed.
- (b) Agreed.

32/74 CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL'S REPORT—
THE GENERAL PRACTITIONER IN IRELAND

The above report was circulated to all the members and after a general discussion it was agreed that the document was too important to be discussed at this meeting. It was accordingly resolved on a proposal by Dr. Meade, seconded by Councillor P. J. Burke, as follows:—

"That a Working Party of the Board be appointed to study the implications of the recommendations in the report and to report to the Board."

The following were appointed: Drs. Meade, Doyle, Walker, Jennings, Mahon, Cullen, Miss Lacey, Mr. Birmingham and Mr. F. Donohue, Programme Manager, Community Care.

33/74 WESTERN HEALTH BOARD LETTER RE
APPEAL AGAINST DECISIONS OF
COMHAIRLE NA n-OSPIDEAL

The following letter dated 2nd January, 1974 was submitted:—

*"Re: Health Act 1970 Section 41—
Comhairle na n-Ospideal*

I set out below copy of resolution passed by my Board at recent meeting calling on the Government to amend the above legislation to allow the right of appeal by Health Boards to the Minister for Health against decisions taken by Comhairle na n-Ospideal. I would be glad if you would bring the terms of the resolution to the attention of your Board at its next meeting.

Resolution:

That the Western Health Board would call on the Government to amend the Health Act 1970, Section 41, to allow the right of appeal by Health Boards to the Minister for Health against decisions taken by Comhairle na n-Ospideal.' "

After a discussion to which Councillor Burke, Mr. O'Flynn, Dr. Meade, Dr. McCormlck, Dr. O'Connell and Commissioner

Hayes contributed, the following motion was proposed by Councillor Burke, seconded by Dr. Meade:—

"That the Eastern Health Board call on the Government to amend the 1970 Health Act to allow the right of appeal by Health Boards to the Minister for Health against decisions taken by Comhairle na n-Ospideal."

The following amendment was proposed by Commissioner Hayes and seconded by Commissioner O'Keefe:—

"That the Eastern Health Board note the resolution of the Western Health Board on appeals against An Comhairle decisions."

The amendment was defeated by 20 votes to 1, the voting being as follows:—

For: Commissioner J. Berry, Mr. J. Corcoran and Councillor M. Cunningham, Commissioner L. Hayes, Commissioner J. O'Keefe, Councillor J. Teemple and Dr. J. Walker—7.

Against: Councillor M. Brady, Councillor P. J. Burke, Mr. M. Birmingham, Councillor M. Carroll, Mr. H. Corrigan, Dr. J. Cullen, Deputy Dockrell, Dr. Doyle, Councillor Guinan, Mr. K. Harrington, Councillor P. Hickey, Dr. Jennings, Miss Kinsella, Miss Lacey, Councillor A. Mahon, Dr. Mahon, Dr. A. Meade, Dr. O'Connell, Mr. D. O'Tlynn, Mr. Ruane—20.

The amendment was declared lost and the original resolution as proposed by Councillor Burke and seconded by Dr. Meade was carried on the same voting.

34/74 CREATION (OF ADDITIONAL POSTS AND EXCESS EXPENDITURE

The following report NJo. 13/1974 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:—

" 1. *Geriatricians*

In the detailed Report on the development of geriatric services submitted to the Board in May last year it was noted that a total of at least 9 Geriatricians would be required for the Eastern Health Board area for the purposes of a fully developed service. There were then 3 Geriatricians engaged—1 based on St. James's and 2 on James Connolly Memorial Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital working also in association with Jervis Street, St. Laurence's and the Mater Hospitals.

The Board noted that it was proposed to enter into further discussions with the parties concerned with a view to the creation of an additional post in association with St. James's

Hospital, 2 posts at St. Vincent's Hospital, Elm Park and an extra post for the North City and County area. As a result of the consultations, agreement has been reached with regard to a second appointment based on St. James's Hospital and an appointment at St. Vincent's Hospital.

In regard to the North City and County area there is not an immediate need for a third post, but the rate of housing development is such that there should be no undue delay in securing the services of an additional Specialist for that area if the need arises. Taking also into account development in South County Dublin and in Co. Wicklow it would be advisable to be in a position to make early provision for the needs of this region. At this stage, accordingly, it is proposed to proceed on the basis of a complement of 7 posts inclusive of the appointment to be made in association with St. Vincent's Hospital and the additional appointment at St. James's Hospital.

2. *Approved Schools*

By Circular KA 122/59 of 17/1/1974 the Minister for Health has approved payment of revised capitation rates of £11 00 per week instead of existing rates of £9-90 per week for persons maintained by Health Boards in Approved Schools with effect from 1/4/1973.

The total extra expenditure, for which no provision has been made in the Estimate, will amount to £21,000 in the current year, and £21,000 in the year 1974/75."

On a proposal by Councillor M. Carroll, seconded by Councillor J. Sweeney, it was unanimously resolved as follows:—

"That we, the Eastern Health Board, consent to the proposals contained in Report No. 13/1974 and authorise the expenditure of £21,000 in the current year, and £21,000 in the year 1974/75 in excess of that provided in the Estimate of Expenses for 1974/75 under the following heads:—

| <i>Service</i> | <i>Purpose of Expenditure</i> | <i>Amount 1973/74</i> | <i>Amount 1974/75</i> |
|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Health | Children in Care | £21,000 | £21,000." |

35/74 ABSTRACT OF ACCOUNTS

The following report No. 14/1974 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:—

"I submit Abstract of Accounts of the Eastern Health Board for the year to 31st March, 1973. The Abstract details the

Revenue and Capital income and expenditure on the Health Services operated by the Board, and includes Statement of Balances, together with the following Statements:—

Particulars of Expenditure in respect of the Board's Hospitals and Homes, Average Daily Cost of the Board's Hospitals and Homes, Statement of Capital Debt.

Details are also given of the Income and Expenditure on the Public Assistance Services which the Board provided on an agency basis for the Dublin Corporation and the Councils of Counties Dublin and Kildare.

The General Purposes Services (Revenue) Account is in respect of Salaries of Health Inspectors engaged on Housing and Sanitary Services, which is recoupable from the rating authorities for whom the service is provided.

The following summary statement compares the Gross expenditure less minor receipts on Health Services for the year with the amounts in the Estimate of Expenses approved by the Minister:—

| | <i>Estimate of Expenses 1972/73</i> | <i>Actual Expenditure 1972/73</i> |
|---|---|---|
| | £ | |
| General Medical Services— | | |
| [Choice of Doctor Scheme, Medicines, etc.] | 2,165,500 | 4,057,907 |
| Hospitals and Homes— | | |
| Joint Board Hospitals | 3,138,000 | |
| Board's Hospitals | 3,309,200 | 3,552,404 |
| Extern Hospitals | 8,992,500 | 3,502,106 |
| Psychiatric Services | 5,005,200 | 9,023,781 |
| Maternity and Child Health Services | 842,500 | 5,512,155 |
| Tuberculosis and Other Infectious Diseases | 577,000 | 796,552 |
| Dental, Ophthalmic and Aural Services | 384,500 | 570,675 |
| Specialist Services | 463,000 | 334,443 |
| Rehabilitation and Maintenance of Disabled Persons | 756,000 | 404,350 |
| Children in Care | 242,000 | |
| Ambulance Services | 307,000 | 937,178 |
| Supervision of Food and Drugs | 74,500 | 235,945 |
| Blind Welfare | 101,000 | 372,050 |
| Registration Expenses | 22,400 | 72,280 |
| Central Services | 1,035,700 | 116,648 |
| | | 16,098 |
| | | 1,237,825 |
| | £27,416,000 | £30,742,397 |

It will be noted that the gross expenditure was approximately £3.3 million more than the estimate approved by the Minister. The General Medical Services, which cost £1.9 million more than estimated, account for the major portion of the overall increase. This was due largely to the under-estimation of the impact of the Choice of Doctor Scheme which became operative in the Eastern Health Board area on 1st April, 1972.

The Joint Board Hospitals, St. James's and James Connolly Memorial Hospital, over whose expenditure the Board has no direct control, account for £400,000 of the increase.

The other increases amounting to approximately £1 million are due to Salaries and Wages Awards, price increases, and increases in welfare allowances.

The gross expenditure for the year, expressed in terms of the Board's Programmes, was as follows:—

| | £ |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| General Hospital Programme | 15,913,296 |
| Special Hospital Programme | 5,957,705 |
| Community Care Programme | 7,633,572 |
| Central Services | 1,237,824 |
| Total | £30,742,397 |

At the end of the year there was a cumulative deficit of £2,698,160.94. This is shown in the Statement of Balances as due in respect of Health Services Grant. It is made up as follows:—

| | £ | £ |
|---|---------------|--------------|
| Health Grant due to 31/3/1971 | | 67,793.51 |
| Health Grant due to 31/3/1972 | | 1,030,670.67 |
| | | 1,098,464.18 |
| Less portion of 1971/72 Health Grant received in 1972/73 | | 355,000.00 |
| | | 743,464.18 |
| Health Grant due 1972/73 (excess of expenditure over income) | 17,598,696.76 | |
| Less Health Grant 1972/73 received | 15,644,000.00 | |
| | | 1,954,696.76 |
| Total | | 2,698,160.94 |

The Accounts for the yeirs 1971/72 and 72/73 are at present being audited. The Health Grant for these years cannot finally be determined until the audit has been completed. Furthermore, there may be additional amounts due from rating authorities in respect of these years which will reduce the amount payable out of Health Services Grant. It is unlikely, however, that such adjustments will significantly reduce the amount of Grant outstanding: Accordingly, the Department of Health has been requested to make a substantial payment on account before the end of the current financial year. Such payment would ensure that the Board's Bank overdraft would not become unduly high in the early months of the coming financial year."

After a discussion to which Commissioner Hayes, Councillor Burke, Dr. Doyle, Mr. Corcoran and Dr. O'Donnell contributed, the following resolution proposed by Mr. H. Corrigan and seconded by Councillor P. J. Burke was unanimously adopted:—

"That Report No. 14/1974 be noted."

36/74 OVERDRAFT ACCOMMODATION

The following Report No. 15/1974 from the Chief Executive Officer is submitted:—

"At its meeting on 6th December, 1973 (Minute No. 125/73) the Board consented to the temporary borrowing of £2,000,000 from its Bankers by way of overdraft during the three months ending on 31st instant.

The amounts to be received from the rating authorities for the next financial period have yet to be ascertained. They will be less than the amounts, totalling £9,806,088, for the current year for the reasons that the next period will be the nine months to 31st December, 1974 and that there will be the on-going shift of health expenditure from local funds to the central fund. The reduction in the amount receivable from the rating authorities will be reflected in higher grants from the Department of Health.

Experience has shown that the flow of income from the rating authorities is very slow in the first three months of the financial year. The instalments of grant are received from the Department of Health on the last day of each month. There will, therefore, be continuing dependence on Overdraft working during the next three months; it is expected that the maximum requirement will be £3,000,000.

I recommend, therefore, that the Board consent to temporary borrowing by way of Overdraft up to a limit of £3,000,000 during the three months ending on 30th June, 1974."

On a proposal by Mr. D. O'Flynn, seconded by Commissioner Hayes, it was unanimously resolved as follows:—

"That the Eastern Health Board hereby consent to the temporary borrowing by way of overdraft as outlined in Report No. 15/1974."

37/74

NOTICE OF MOTION

The following motion proposed by Commissioner Hayes and seconded by Mr. Ruane was considered:—

"That the Eastern Health Board, in conjunction with the Department of Health, be asked that a rota be provided to callow for two hospitals on the North Side rather than one at (present and so help to overcome the dilemma being experienced by the members of the Dublin Fire Brigade Ambulance Services regarding reception of accident cases."

Commissioner Hayes explained the purpose of the motion Qnd after a discussion to which Mr. O'Flynn and Dr. Doyle (contributed and to which Mr. J. J. Nolan, Deputy Chief Executive Officer replied, it was agreed to refer the matter to the INorth City Hospitals Council for consideration.

38/74

CORRESPONDENCE

(a) A letter containing the following resolution from the IMorth-Western Health Board was read:—

"That the North-Western Health Board ask Telefis Eireann to cease transmitting advertisements for alcoholic drinks on Television and Radio."

After a short discussion it was agreed on a proposal by Mr. O'Flynn, seconded by Commissioner Hayes, that it be rnoted.

(b) Letter dated 22nd February from the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd. advising of its 48th General Meeting was read. It was agreed that the current representative of the Board, Councillor M Carroll should represent the Board at tlhis meeting.

(c) In connection with the completion of the lease with the St. James's Hospital Board the Chairman drew the attention of members to the map displayed in the Boardroom which showed the area and buildings which it had previously been agreed to lease to the Board of St. James's Hospital.

The meeting terminated at 8.15 p.m.

CORRECT:

Eoghan O Caoimh,

Chief Executive Officer.

CHAIRMAN.