

13th February, 2004.

Do gach Comhalta den mBord

A Chara,

The monthly meeting of the Northern Area Health Board will be held in **The Boardroom, Northern Area Health Board, Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin, on Thursday, 19th February, 2004 at 5.00pm.**

Hereunder is the agenda.

Mise, le meas,

M. Windle

PRIOMH FEIDHMEANNACH

CLAR

1. Chairmans Business
2. Minutes of proceedings of
 - (a) Monthly Board Meeting held on Thursday 22nd January, 2004
 - (i) Matters arising
3. Questions to the Chief Executive
4. Chief Executive's Report (*to be circulated*)
5. Report on Mental Health Services
Report No 3/2004(herewith)
6. Services for Older Persons
Bed Management System Audit Report T.C.D.
Report No 4/2004(herewith)
7. Report from Standing Committees
 - (a) Community Services and Continuing Care
 - (b) Acute Hospitals and Primary Care

8. Motions

9. Correspondence

10. Matters for Mention

NORTHERN AREA HEALTH BOARD

**Minutes of proceedings of Monthly Board Meeting
of the Northern Area Health Board
held in the Boardroom, NAHB Headquarters, Swords Business Campus,
Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin**

On Thursday, 19th February, 2004

Present

Cllr. C. Burke
Mr. M. Cowley
Cllr. D. Heney
Mr. P. Ledwidge
Cllr. M. Murphy
Cllr. G. McGuire
Cllr. E. O'Brien
Cllr. M. O'Donovan
Ms. C. Quinn
Dr. J. Reilly
Cllr. J. Stafford
Cllr. T. Stafford

In the Chair

Cllr. L. Creaven

Apologies

Cllr. A. Devitt
Ms. N. Harvey
Dr. B. Murphy
Cllr. D. Murray

Officers in Attendance

Ms. M. Windle, Chief Executive
Mr. M. Walsh, Deputy Chief Executive
Mr. J. Cahill, Asst Chief Executive
Mr. P. Dunne, Asst Chief Executive
Ms. L. McGuinness, Asst Chief Executive
Ms. N Byrne, Director of Communications
Ms.M. Kelly, Director of Human Resources
Mr. S. Mulvany, Director of Finance
Mr. J. Murphy, Board Secretary

Other Officers in Attendance

Ms. J. Ebbs, Group Service Manager
Mr. G. Hanley, Group Service Manager
Mr. T. Larkin, Financial Accountant
Mr. T. Leahy, Director of Mental Health & Addiction
Ms. D. Ryan, Senior Manager
Ms. B. Kelly, Secretariat

11/2004

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

Condolences

I am sure members will join with me in expressing sincere sympathy with those whose names have been included on the list of condolences, which has been circulated to members.

2. Schedule of Meetings/Visits

A copy of schedule of forthcoming meetings/visits has been circulated to all members.

Please note proposed dates for Special Board Meetings.

22nd March 2004 at 11.00am – Finance and Property Committee – AFS

22nd March, 2004 at 12 midday – Provider Plan 2004

31st March, 2004 at 12 midday – AFS and Annual Report 2003

3. Association of Health Boards

I wish to advise to advise members that the Annual Conference of the Association of Health Boards will take place on Friday 26th and Saturday 27th March, 2004 in the Bridge House Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.

4. Eastern Regional Health Board/ Area Health Board Meeting

I wish to advise members that a meeting of Regional and Area Health Board Chief Executives, Chairperson, and Vice Chairperson and Board Secretaries has been scheduled, at the request of the Finance and Property Committee of the Eastern Regional Health Authority, for 6.30pm this evening.

5. Apologies

Ms Noeleen Harvey
Cllr Ann Devitt
Cllr Dermot Murray

12/2004

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY BOARD MEETING

held on Thursday, 22nd January, 2004.

On a proposal by Cllr Burke and seconded by Cllr Heney, the minutes of the Monthly Board Meeting held on 22nd January, 2004 were agreed.

13/2004

QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

On a proposal by Cllr Burke, and seconded by Cllr Creaven it was agreed to answer the questions lodged.

Cllr O'Brien requested that his objections to what he considered censoring of his question be noted.

1. Cllr Eamonn O'Brien

“To ask the Chief Executive if she would clarify the position regarding the fit out and funding of the proposed new Ballymun Health Centre”?

Reply

The commitment to the rebuilding and redevelopment of Ballymun was underpinned by the decision by Central Government in March 1997 to provide substantial new funding for the project. Dublin Corporation then established a wholly owned subsidiary, Ballymun Regeneration Ltd., to progress the regeneration of the area. In March 1998 a Master Plan, incorporating an Integrated Area Plan for the Ballymun area was presented to Government, and accepted as the blueprint for the area's future development.

Ballymun Regeneration Limited, in consultation with the former Eastern Health Board, developed a brief for a Civic Centre, which included provision for a Primary Care Centre and accommodation for the Community Services Area 7 Headquarters. The siting of the H.Q. for Community Service Area 7 was approved by the our Board at its meeting in April, 2000. Ballymun Regeneration Limited brought their proposal to the open market in May 2000 and commissioned a proposal from a developer to provide a Civic Centre. This process was in line with the decision of Government to drive the Ballymun renewal process through partnership with the private sector, and the initial invitation inviting submissions from interested parties was in conformity with the Master Plan for the New Ballymun accepted by Government in March 1998.

Our Board continued to liaise with Ballymun Regeneration Limited during the construction phase of the Centre, which was completed in February 2003. While agreeing in principle to become a major sub-tenant in the Centre, the Board at all times made it clear to Ballymun Regeneration

Limited that the Board's participation was subject to approval and funding at Eastern Regional Health Authority/Department of Health and Children level.

Our Board will acquire approximately 60% of the floor area of the Civic Centre, providing the Primary Care Centre and office accommodation, on a lease-purchase basis. The indicative cost of this proposal over 14 years as notified by Ballymun Regeneration Limited is as follows:

- Rental (14 year period fixed) Euro 1.62m per annum
- Purchase (Contribution to sinking fund) Euro 1.80m per annum
- Service Charges (Estimate subject to negotiation) Euro 0.6m per annum

The fit-out for our Board's portion of the building (i.e. building works, electrical and plumbing, painting and decorating, floor finishes etc.) will cost approximately Euro 6.35M exclusive of furniture and fittings, which are estimated at Euro 2.8M. Fit-out has not yet commenced, and there will be approximately eight months from commencement of fit-out to completion.

The proposed funding structure provided for a financing arrangement over 14 years with effect from January 2003, which would mean the NAHB or its successors would have ownership of their portion of the building after this period. Therefore, the term "rental" could be more accurately described as a financing cost than that of a rent typically associated with a lease.

Our Board was due credits from BRL in 2003 reflecting works more suitable for our Board to undertake in association with the fit-out. This has been set-off against a significant portion of the liability in 2003

Our Board in conjunction with the Eastern Regional Health Authority has been in dialogue with the Department of Health and Children concerning the funding provision for this project throughout 2003. Our Board and the Authority has made a number of submissions to the Department and has also met to progress matters.

The Department of Health and Children have not been in a position to make funding available to date.

Following consideration of the submissions by the Department of Health and Children a number of meetings have been held, involving our Board, the Eastern Regional Health Authority, and other stakeholders, to work on a number of considerations relation to financing options. On conclusion of these engagements, there will be further meetings between our Board, the Eastern Regional Health Authority and the Department of Health and Children to discuss various options.

2. Cllr Mary Murphy

“Could the Chief Executive outline the Northern Area Health Board's immediate plans for the extension of the Wellmount Health Centre, the funding allocated, the anticipated building start date and any issues that may be delaying same”?

Reply

The Health Centre at Wellmount Avenue in Finglas has been providing services to the people of the area for the last 25 years approx. (There is also a smaller health centre at Ballygall Road, Finglas). Over this period of time the services delivered from the centre has expanded and currently provides the following: - Dental Services, Public Health Nursing Services, Community Psychiatric Services, Social Work Services, Home Help Services, Community Welfare Services, Speech and Language Therapy Services, an Addiction Service as well as a Customer Service. In all approximately sixty staff are engaged in the provision of these services.

The Health Centre provides for a local and immediate population in excess of 23,000 persons. This is primarily an ageing population with 30% approx aged 50 years or older. While new housing is being built in the area the future health requirements are expected to be more for an elderly population.

As there are continuously increasing service demands being made by clients, and with the need to respond speedily and effectively the current size of the health centre and the space it offers is no longer adequate. Both Public Health Nursing Services and Addiction Services are two areas with greatest need for additional space to deliver services effectively. The number of staff working in the health centre has increased in proportion to the expansion of the services, over the past few years and this has led to a need for developing staff tearoom/canteen facilities, staff toilets, meeting/conference room etc.

The feasibility of erecting an extension to the health centre is now being considered and in this regard a report and drawings have been prepared for examination. The possibility of leasing some office space to alleviate current space pressure is also being considered. However, the development /provision of any additional extension to the health centre is dependent on the availability of funding.

3. Cllr Mary Murphy

“Could the Chief Executive outline the services available in the Finglas area for ADD and ADHD and comment on

a) Whether these services are considered sufficient

b) Whether there is sufficient continuity of care

- c) The extent to which there are any services for adults with ADD or ADHD
- d) Whether there are plans to recognise ADD and ADHD as a long term illness' for the purposes of assessing medical card eligibility”?

Reply

Services available for persons with ADD and ADHD, and their families, include the following,

- **Public Health Nursing/Public Health Medicine**

Local Public Health Nurses, Area Medical Officers and General Practitioners provide services for children with attention deficit Disorder (ADD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in the Finglas area. There are 2 Area Medical Officer Clinics in Wellmount Health Centre (once per month) and twice per month in Ballygall Road Health Centre.

- **Diagnosis and Treatment**

Children and families are referred to appropriate diagnostic and treatment centres in the Child and Family Centre, Connaught Street, Phibsboro, Dublin 7, the Child and Family Centre, Castleknock, Community Care Psychological Services, Department of Education School Psychological Services and Temple Street Children's Hospital.

- **Social Worker and Family Support Services**

There is also a Social Worker, Family Support Worker and Community Mother Service provided by the Northern Area Health Board in the Finglas Area. There are some places in local crèches for children with behavioural/emotional problems. These may be accessed by the local Public Health Nurses.

- **Domiciliary Care Allowance**

Parents of children with ADD and ADHD can apply for the Domiciliary Care Allowance. The Area Medical Officers provide assessment and eligibility is based on the severity of the condition on an individual basis. There is an independent Appeals Process, whereby the decision not to grant the allowance is peer reviewed by the Medical Review Committee of the Eastern Regional Health Authority, which meets once per month.

- **Child Psychiatric Services**

Child Psychiatric services are provided for our Board in the Castleknock Child and Family Centre, by the South Western Area Health Board. This clinic provides a service for all the Finglas area, Phibsboro, Navan Road and Cabra as well as all the Dublin 15 area. A second child psychiatry team is being established in Blanchardstown.

The waiting time for an appointment in Castleknock clinic is approximately six to eight months at present.

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder patients once diagnosed usually attend the clinic throughout their childhood.

Many are receiving medication, which is regularly monitored and reviewed, thus providing continuity of care.

- **Other Services**

Springboard (a Barnardos initiative) has just opened to specifically service the needs of residents in Finglas West. This project supports children and their families living with ADHD/ADD. They employ a multi disciplinary team, which includes a psychologist.

- **Services for Adults**

Local General Practitioners and local adult mental health services provide services for adults with ADD and ADHD. Adults with this condition, who are unable to work, can apply to the Department of Social and Family Affairs for Disability benefit and for a medical card at their local health centres.

There is currently no waiting list for children to be seen in the Area Medical Officer clinics held in the Finglas area.

Continuity of care is facilitated in Finglas by the close working relationship that exists between all the health professionals and community care staff working in partnership with the parents of children of ADD and ADHD.

The issue of whether there are plans to recognise ADD and ADHD as a long term illness is a matter for the Department of Health and Children, which approve the list of “long Term Illnesses” recognised under this scheme. Currently parents of children with ADD and ADHD are granted a medical card if financially eligible. Non medical cardholders pay no more the €78 in total for the whole family’s monthly drug bill under the Drugs Refund Scheme.

4. Cllr Mary Murphy

“Can the Chief Executive comment on whether there has been any progress implementing the recommendations contained in the report “People Living in Finglas and their Health” published in February 2003 and whether there are any future plans to take the reports recommendations in account when developing health services in this area”?

Reply

The Northern Area Health Board commissioned a study to investigate the Health needs of people living in the Finglas area. The findings are set out in the report “ People living in Finglas and their Health” which was launched in

February 2003. The purpose of this survey was to identify population health needs in the Finglas area, to inform planning for future service developments in the area and therefore did not set out to make recommendations. The overall purpose of the health needs assessment in Finglas was to gather information required to bring about change that benefits the health status of the target population. This report will be a valuable source of information for the future planning and development of health services in the Finglas area, particularly in the context of the implementation of the Primary Care Health Strategy.

Following on from this study a number of immediate health initiatives, which will have a positive impact on, the health status of the population of the Finglas area are as follows: -

Primary Health Care Centre

Planning has commenced in relation to the development of a new Primary Health Care Centre to replace the existing Health Centre at Ballygall Road as part of the regeneration of Finglas village.

Wellmount Health Centre

- Architectural drawings have been done on the erection of a permanent extension to Wellmount Avenue Health Centre. This is subject to minor capital provision.
- Parent Craft classes have been introduced at Wellmount Avenue Health Centre.

Primary Care Team

Arrangements are being put in place to develop a primary care team for the Finglas area in line with the National Primary Care Strategy. Discussions are underway with General Practitioners addressing pertinent issues within general practice, in particular the shortage of General Practitioners in the area.

Seniors Helpline

The Northern Area Health Board facilitated the extension of the Seniors Helpline by setting up the Finglas centre in association with the Summerhill Active Retirement Group, to enhance the scope and range of this service to older people in the locality.

Home First

Discussions took place in 2002 and 2003 with a view to progressing the expansion of this service to Community Care Area 6/James Connolly Memorial Hospital, to enable our Board to offer this service to older people in the Finglas area.

Home Care Packages

These home based care packages are provided to older persons whose care needs have increased to such an extent that the general services available are no longer adequate. In addition, further training has been provided for Home Care Attendants.

Day Care Services, Finglas South

Our Board in conjunction with Respond Ireland commenced the construction of an integrated sheltered housing complex and Day Centre in Finglas South. This project will be fully commissioned in 2004.

Older Persons Programmes

- Ageing with Confidence programmes have been run biannually in 2003 and a third programme is planned for 2004.
- Tir Na Nog project facilitates a range of social activities for older people in the area to overcome isolation and loneliness.

Cardiovascular Disease/ Heartwatch Programme

- Seven General Practitioners in the Finglas Area are participating in the HeartWatch Programme. A total of 150 patients in the Finglas Area are participating in the Programme. Our Board supplied all general practices participating in the Programme with an Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitor (ABPM). This assists a G.P. to improve treatment/ care to patients with blood pressure difficulties. Training was provided to G.P's and Practice nurses in the use of the device.
- There are two Dieticians working with G.P's who are participating in the Heartwatch Programme in the Finglas Area. A total of 135 patients in the area have been referred to the dietetic services.

Counselling Services

A review of counselling services for families in the Finglas area is currently being carried out with a view to increasing service provision in the area.

Speech and Language Therapy Services

A new method of delivering Speech and Language Therapy services is being provided in the area, dramatically reducing the waiting list for services.

Community Welfare Service

The Community Welfare service has been re-orientated to facilitate and support people living in their own homes. The service is currently examining means of further improving customer needs.

Carers Support

Carers Support Services including Stress Reduction courses are being provided at two centres in the area.

Occupational Therapy

The provision of Occupational Therapy Services has been enhanced leading to an improvement in waiting times.

Home Help

Additional Funding has been provided to the Home Help service to address waiting lists in the area.

Mental Health Services

- Acute in-patient services will be provided from the new 50-bed purpose built unit in James Connolly Memorial Hospital in late 2004/early 2005.
- Day Centre facilities are provided at Century Business Park and it is also intended to provide Day Hospital facilities at this site in the near future.
- EVE Holdings Ltd. on behalf of the Northern Area Health Board run rehabilitation workshops at their premises in both the North Road and Century Business Park.
- Out-patient clinics are run by the Consultant led sector teams in both Ballygall and Wellmount Health Centres.

14/2004

CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT

SERVICE MATTERS

Budget Allocation 2004

On Friday 13th February 2004 our board was notified by ERHA of our initial 2004 Allocation, which is in the sum of €571.414m.

This compares to a closing 2003 allocation of €582.745m.

The following should be noted in relation to the above figures:

- 1) The 2003 allocation of €582.745m included €48.731m in “once-off” funding
- 2) Certain elements of expenditure in 2003 were in effect once-off and will not re-occur in the current year, for example
 - Arrears of 1st Phase of Benchmarking and Parallel Benchmarking and other major pay awards
 - 2002 1st charge - €3.359m
 - Certain additional minor capital expenditure
- 3) The initial 2004 allocation contains mainly technical adjustments such as for new pay awards and inflationary adjustments and does not yet include
 - Any New Development Funding for 2004
 - Full year costs of developments / initiatives from 2003

- Clarity around which elements of funding provided on a once-off basis in 2003 will be provided again in 2004.

It will be a number of weeks before the necessary analysis is completed to match 2003 once-off costs and funding and before the ERHA are on a position to finalise the 2004 Allocation to our Board.

I will bring a further detailed provider plan report to our Finance and Property Committee, and to a Special meeting of our Board, scheduled for 22nd March, 2004.

Fire at Adare House

This premises was the subject of a fire incident on Tuesday 3rd February 2004 at approximately 2 AM. The Garda Siochana and Dublin fire Brigade are investigating the cause of the fire at present, the cause has not been determined

The fire appears to have started in the premises at the end of the terrace namely 281 North Circular Road. This premises was undergoing a major refurbishment at the time. The fire then appears to have spread through the attic space into the adjoining property namely 279 North Circular Road. It then spread into the attic space at 277 North Circular Road. Fortunately the smoke detector in the attic activated and the residents were safely evacuated. According to our staff in the house, the fire detector in the attic picked up the smoke and activated the fire alarm, thereby allowing them to evacuate the building in a safe and orderly manner. This confirms the importance of early detection in such circumstances.

The building has been made secure as possible by our maintenance department in accordance with the request from Dublin City Council Dangerous Building Section. The Engineering Base have advised the relevant insurance bodies and the insurance company representative has made a preliminary inspection.

Our Board is carrying out a survey of NAHB properties since March 2003 and in April 2003 had highlighted properties which required attention. Following the receipt of funding a programme of works was commenced to upgrade the highlighted properties. Both of these processes are ongoing.

We are currently commissioning a detailed fire safety survey of our main residential facilities in consultation with the EHSS Fire Officer to identify immediate requirements as regards fire detection and prevention. In the longer term, issues such as training and monitoring of fire safety will also need to be addressed.

Medical Card Guidelines 2004

Medical Card Guidelines for 2004 were increased with the Consumer Price Index for the 12-month period to November 2003 and were advised to our Board on 2nd February 2004.. The New guidelines were issued to our three Community Care Area's on 3rd February, 2004 and all applications for medical cards received since the 1st January 2004 have been assessed us using the 2004 guidelines. I attach copy of all 2004 Medical Card Guidelines.

Processing / Issuing of Medical Cards

Each application form is date stamped on date of receipt and details are inserted on the Medical Card Computer System.

Assessment follows within two/three days approx.

Pending a fully completed application form with appropriate details and information, the assessment is completed in up to two/ three days. However where forms are not fully completed or where additional information may be required from the applicant in order to support their case then there may be a waiting/hold implication in such instances. This may take from a day or two to perhaps a number of weeks depending on individual circumstances.

When an application is approved (following assessment) it is input to the Medical Card Computer system and this information is transferred through to the G.M.S (Payments) Board within 24 hours.

Where application forms are received fully completed and where the applicant, following assessment, is within the laid down guidelines processing is ordinarily completed within a week.

Delay or hold up may be attributed, in the main, to seeking relevant details or information where forms are not always fully completed. Expert medical advice may have to be sought prior to granting of some medical cards. Average processing time is 2 weeks approx. However with regard to applications from persons aged 70 years and over, where there is no means test required, the processing time is within 2 days.

In cases of very special need/special circumstances applications are afforded priority status.

While each application is unique in its own way we always endeavour to provide a speedy and problem free service for all applicants.

The responsibility for the actual issuing of the medical card is a matter for the G.M.S. (Payments Board), who issue cards for all Health Boards.

The G.M.S. (Payments Board) have confirmed that a medical card issues within 2 working days of approval being advised by Health Boards, and that they are satisfied that good controls are in place to monitor this service.

Community Welfare Service – Dublin 15

Community Welfare Services for the Dublin 15 area are delivered from Roselawn and Mourtview Health Centres. The Dublin 15 area has seen a dramatic increase in population over the last 5 years in particular in areas like Clonsilla, Clonee, Tyrellstown, Carpenterstown and Mulhuddart, with considerable housing development in the area. A considerable number of the increased population are eligible for payments under the Supplementary Welfare Allowance scheme, in

particular rent supplements, to such an extent that our Boards facilities at Roselawn and Mountview could no longer cope with the demands being placed on the facilities. Our Board have been in discussion with the Department of Social and Family Affairs with a view to increasing resources, both manpower, and premises, to meet the increased demand.

In order to deliver other primary care services from these health centres, the Community Welfare Service has been delivered by freephone and post since mid November 2003. A backlog has developed since this time, and overtime has been approved to deal with outstanding claims.

A new premises has been identified, and funding has been secured from the Department of Social and Family Affairs, for an additional 3 /4 Community Welfare Officer clinic spaces for the Dublin 15 area. Planning permission has been sought for "change of use" for this premises, and internal building alterations will be required before the clinics can be made operational. When these new clinics come on line, the delivery of services at Roselawn and Mountview will resume.

It should be noted that the provision of Primary Care Units at Mulhuddart and at Hartstown are priorities in our Boards capital development programme.

***Draft Legislation – St Brendan’s Hospital –
“Grangegorman Development Agency Bill, 2003”***

In December 1999, the Government approved the purchase by the Department of Education and Science for the Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) of ERHA lands at Grangegorman Dunlin 7. It was envisaged that some of DIT’s faculties and its central administrative functions would be relocated to Grangegorman. The remainder of the site would remain with the Health authorities for the development of a range of non-acute health facilities. The site is some 70 acres in total.

This Working Group was established in May 2001 and made recommendations. This will be a medium-term and complex property development project, involving two significant state agencies and a number of interested Government Departments. The site is of great importance to the city. Its development requires a strategic vision and the various elements will need to be undertaken in a sensitive and integrated way, working closely with Dublin City Council and consulting with local community interests.

Development of the entire site in an integrated fashion will also maximise the value for money to the Exchequer in that it makes the development more attractive – because it offers more possibilities and flexibility – to potential PPP partners. Consultants recommended that a dedicated Development Agency be created. The Agency is to be responsible for procuring the health and education facilities (once they have been formally agreed through the appropriate channels), including relevant health facilities off site. The procurement to be to specifications determined by the lead agency. In the procurement of facilities, the development Agency will act as agent of ERHA and DIT as appropriate. The legislation for the Agency should provide for the vesting of the site with it, as well as DIT properties to be vacated and any other ERHA properties that are identified by agreement at the detailed planning stage as suitable for inclusion in a PPP option.

The Agency could initially be set up jointly by the Department of Education and Science and ERHA as a company limited by guarantee, with Board representation drawn from the two state organisations and representatives from the parent Departments. A high calibre Chief Executive Officer with experience of complex development projects should be appointed. It should be given a statutory basis as soon as possible.

Re-Opening of “closed beds”

I wish to advise member that our Board has been advised that funding is being made available to re-open beds which are currently closed (at James Connolly Memorial Hospital, St Mary’s Hospital and our Community Nursing Units). Our Board is currently identifying, and attempting to source, the resources (including staff), to enable these beds to open, as a matter of priority.

Approval to the reopening of 32 beds at James Connolly Memorial Hospital was received from the Authority on 6th February 2004. Commitment to funding has also been received. A plan has been put in place to reopen the beds including recruitment initiatives to recruit staff to these posts. Plans are in progress to enable twelve beds to reopen on Monday 23rd February 2004. In synergy with the reopening of these beds, the A/E escalation policy will be reviewed to ensure the protection of day beds to enable elective day procedures to be carried out.

Following discussion, to which Cllr Burke, Cllr McGuire, Cllr Murphy, Cllr O’Donovan, Mr Ledwidge, Dr Reilly, Mr Cowley, Cllr Heney, and Cllr Stafford contributed, and to which the Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive and director of Finance and Director of Human Resources responded, the Chief Executives, report was noted.

The Chief Executive advised that a further examination of the delays in processing of medical cards would be carried out, and that an update on the services provided at the Orthodontic Unit at Ashtown Gate would be brought to the next meeting of our Board.

15/20004

REPORT NO 3/2004

Report on Mental Health Services

Report No 3/2004 Report on Mental Health Services, was deferred to the next monthly meeting of the Board.

16/2004
REPORT NO 4/2004
Services for Older Persons
Bed Management System Audit Report T.C.D.

Report No 4/2004 Services for Older Persons was noted.

17/2004
PROGRESS REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

(a) *Community Services and Continuing Care Standing Committee*

On a proposal by Cllr J Stafford seconded by Cllr McGuire the report from the Community Services and Continuing Care Standing Committee meeting held on 26th January, 2004 was agreed.

(b) *Acute Hospitals and Primary Care Standing Committee*

There was no meeting held.

18/2004
MOTIONS

There were no motions presented.

The meeting concluded at 6.30pm.

M. WINDLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CLLR LIAM CREAVER
CHAIRMAN

19th February, 2004