

**EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**  
**Minutes of proceedings of Monthly Meeting**  
**of the Eastern Health Board held in the Boardroom,**  
**St Brendan's Hospital,**  
**on Thursday 7 January 1982 at 6 pm**

**PRESENT**

Ald B Ahem TD  
 J D Behan  
 Cllr L Belton  
 Mrs B Bonar  
 Cllr D Browne  
 Cllr M Carroll  
 Cllr E Doyle TD  
 Prof J S Doyle  
 Ald A FitzGerald  
 Cllr M Freehill  
 Cllr Mrs A Glenn  
 Cllr A Groome  
 Cllr T Hand  
 Mr K Harrington

Cllr F Hynes  
 DrDG Kelly  
 Dr P McCarthy  
 Prof J McCormick  
 Mr M Matthews  
 Dr A Meade  
 Dr B Powell  
 Cllr H Reilly  
 Dr B Sheehan  
 Cllr E Stagg  
 Cllr G Timmins  
 TD Dr J Walker  
 Cllr W Willoughby

**IN THE CHAIR**

Cllr D Browne

**APOLOGIES**

Cllr J Sweeney

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr P B Segrave  
 Mr F J Donohue  
 Mr T Keyes  
 Mr K Hickey  
 Mr J Reynolds  
 Mr J Sadlier  
 Prof B O'Donnell  
 Mr P Lyons  
 Mr P J Swords

Mr J Doyle  
 Miss A Flanagan  
 Mr A O'Brien  
 Mr K Ward  
 Mr M O'Connor  
 Mr M Cummins  
 Mr J Leech  
 Miss E Larkin  
 Miss B Kelly

1/82

**CONDOLENCE**

The Chairman informed the members of the recent death of the father of Mr Martin Bugler, Section Officer. Technical Services Department. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect.

2/82

**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

- (i) The Chairman welcomed Cllr W Willoughby who had been appointed by the Corporation of Dun Laoghaire to replace Cllr Mrs Waugh.
- (ii) The Chairman advised the members that Cllr J Sweeney was ill in hospital. The members asked that good wishes for a speedy recovery be conveyed to him.
- tin) The Chairman informed the members that Mr J Sadlier, Technical Services Officer for the past six and a half years, was resigning from the Board on 31 January 1 982 to take up an appointment in the Voluntary Hospital Service. The members joined with the Chairman in wishing Mr Sadlier well in his new appointment.
- (iv) The Chairman informed the members that a meeting of a committee of the whole house would be held on Thursday 21 January 1982 at 6.00 p.m. to consider the Report of the Mental Handicap Committee "Planning Mental Handicap Services".

3/82

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 3 December 1981, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal' by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Groome.

4/82

**PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEES**

The reports of the following Visiting Committees, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:

- (i) No 4 Visiting Committee meeting held at St Clare's Home on 25 November 1981.

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes. seconded by Or Harrington, the report was noted.

- ( i i ) No 3 Visiting Committee meeting held at County Hospital. Naas on 27 November 1981.

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Groome, the report was noted.

In response to an enquiry from Cllr Hynes regarding long-stay geriatric care. Mr Hickey, Programme Manager, stated that discussions had taken place between the Medical Officer. Matron and Hospital Administrator, St Vesicant's Hospital, Athy, the Director of Community Care and the Superintendent Public Health Nurse regarding the establishment of a revised admission and discharge policy for St Vincent's Hospital, Athy;

that proposals for the provision of additional welfare accommodation particularly in the north Kildare area were presently being examined; that a proposal to provide transport service from north Kildare to the Day Hospital at St Mary's Hospital was under consideration and that Day Care Services had been initiated at St Vincent's Hospital, Athy and in Kildare town. With regard to longer term developments, Mr Hickey stated that an application had been made to Comhairle na nOspideal for approval to the establishment of a post of Physician in Geriatric Medicine to be based at Naas Hospital and that proposals for the necessary assessment and rehabilitation accommodation were under discussion with the Department of Health.

Following a discussion on the report on the Care of the Aged, to which Cllrs Groome, Mrs Glenn and Carroll contributed, it was agreed that a further request should be sent to the Minister for Health to receive a deputation from the Board, at an early date.

- (iii) No 4 Visiting Committee meeting held at St Mary's Hospital on 9 December, 1981.

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Dr Harrington, the report was noted.

- (iv) No 1 Visiting Committee meeting held at St Columcille's Hospital on 11 December, 1981.

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Carroll the report was noted.

5/82

**DISPOSAL OF DISPENSARY RESIDENCE (AND LAND ATTACHED) AT  
BLESSINGTON, CO WICKLOW**

Consideration of Report no. 38/1981 from the Chief Executive Officer, which was before the Board at its December meeting, was deferred until the January meeting. Following a discussion to which the Chairman, Cllr Timmins and Cllr Mrs Glenn contributed, it was agreed to postpone further consideration of this matter until the February meeting of the Board by which time the Wicklow Local Committee would have had an opportunity to make its recommendation.

6/82

**GUIDELINES FOR MEDICAL CARDS**

The Following Report no. 1/1982 from the Chief Executive) Officer was submitted:

"The guidelines operative from 1 January 1981 were based on the Consumer Price Index figures at mid November 1 980. The Consumer Price Index figures for November 1981 have now become available and, having regard to them I have revised the guidelines with effect from 1 January 1982 as shown hereunder:

Category	Current guidelines (operative from 1 January 1981	Revised guidelines from 1 January 1982
Single person living with relatives	33.00	40.50
Single person living alone	38.50	47.50
Husband and wife	55.50	68.50
For each child under 16 yrs.	6.00	7.50
For each child over 16 yrs. with no income and maintained at home by applicant	7.50	9.00
To the income guidelines shown above are added		
a) Weekly housing outgoings in (rent, ground rent, mortgage charges etc.)	6.00	7.50
b) Exceptional expenses necessarily incurred in travelling to and from work where these create undue hardship.		

Persons with no income other than:

- (a) Old age non-contributory pension (maximum)
- (b) Old age (Care) Allowance
- (c) Deserted Wives Allowance
- (d) Infectious Diseases (Maintenance) Allowance
- (e) Disabled Persons (Maintenance) Allowance
- (f) Social Assistance Allowance for unmarried mothers (maximum)
- (g) Social Assistance Allowance for single women (maximum)
- (h) Widows (non-contributory) pension (maximum)
- (i) Orphans (non-contributory) allowance (maximum)
- (j) Blind (non-contributory) pension (maximum)
- (k) Supplementary Welfare Allowance

will be regarded as being eligible for a medical card.

Cases of hardship will continue to be dealt with individually on merit."

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Stagg, Reilly, Hynes, Freehill, Professor McCormick, Dr Behan and Dr Sheehan contributed, the report was noted.

During the course of the discussion the following points were made by members:

- (i) The Minister for Health should be requested to abolish the means-testing of applications for medical cards because of the hardship it imposes.
- (ii) The Minister for Health should also be requested to review the guidelines every six months.
- (iii) Changes in benefits under the Voluntary Health Insurance scheme and under the Health Boards' schemes should, where possible, take place at the same time.
- (iv) The recommendations in the Report of the Working Party on Selective Benefits should be followed up with the Minister for Health.

7/82

#### ALLOCATION FOR NON-CAPITAL EXPENDITURE 1981

The following Report no. 2/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"The Department of Health in the attached letter 4 December 1981 (Ref HSG 639) stated that the Minister for Health revised the allocation to the Board to cover approved expenditure not included in the original allocation.

The revised new level of expenditure approved for 1981 is £24.856m including £16.150m for the Board's share expenditure incurred by the General Medical Services (Payments) Board the original allocation was £11.59m including £13.9m for the General Medical (services) Payments Board.

The additional allocation of £6706000 for direct expenditure on services by the Board is in respect of the following

increase in expenditure trends or refund medicine scheme

increases in salaries to various grades

cost of implementing the Common Contract Consultants

increases in pensions

payment of a double week in December 1981 to recipients of long-term allowances

increases in welfare allowances from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 1981

The Department stated that the revised level of expenditure is the maximum that can be approved in the light of the resources available and that it will only be adjusted to cover the cost of rationalization of pay rates for non-nursing personnel and any further revised salary scales approved after 1 December 1981.

From information available at the time of writing this report, an additional allocation of £45,000 may be expected under these headings.

In Report no. 36/1981 which I submitted to the Board in November last I estimated that the net expenditure for the year would be £ 108,514,200. Since then a number of pay awards were approved, bringing the estimated outturn to £ 109.145m. There will, therefore, be an estimated deficit of £439,000 for the year 1981, which may have to be found from the 1982 budget allocation."

Chief Executive Officer  
Eastern Health Board  
1 James's Street  
Dublin 8

Department of Health  
Custom House  
Dublin 1

4 December 1981

#### Allocation for Non-Capital Expenditure 1981 A Chara

I am directed by the Minister for Health to state that the allocations for 1981 for non-capital services in respect of your Board, which were notified to you on 25 Marts J981 have now been revised to cover approved expenditure not provided for in the original allocations. The revised net expenditure levels approved for your Board in respect of 1981 for direct expenditure, (including its share of the expenses of the General Medical Services (Payments) Board (viz. Cl6.150m) is £124.856m.

The revised level of allocation now notified is the maximum that can be approved in the light of the resources available and falls to be adjusted only in respect of:

1. Expenditure arising from the rationalization of pay rates for non-nursing personnel consequential to Circular S100/314 dated 18 November 1981.
2. Expenditure arising from any further revised salary scales approved by the Department after 1 December 1981.

Mise le meas

A Boushel"

It was unanimously agreed that the report should be noted.

8/82

#### PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES

The reports of the following Local Committees having been circulated were dealt with as follows:

1. Kildare Local Committee meeting held on 19 November 1981.  
  
On a proposal by Cllr Stagg. seconded by Cllr Groome, the report was noted.
2. Wicklow Local Committee meeting held on 20 November 1 981  
  
On a proposal by Cllr Hynes. seconded by Cllr Timmins. the report was noted.

9/82

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

- (i) The following motion was proposed by Dr A Meade and seconded by Dr B Sheehan

"That the Board consider some method whereby full laboratory services can be restored to the general practitioners and patients in the Dun Laoghaire and south east Dublin area."

Following a discussion~ to which Drs Meade. Sheehan and Behan contributed the motion .was agreed unanimously and referred to Mr Hickey. Programme Manager for examination and report to the Board in due course.

- (ii) The following motion..as proposed by Cllr F Hynes and seconded by Professor J S Doyle:

"That as a matter of urgency the Department of Health be asked to give their approval to the provision of accommodation and facilities for the establishment of out patient clinics at Tallaght to be operated by the Meath and Adelaide Hospitals in accordance with the proposals submitted to the Department of Health by the hospitals some considerable time ago a^d in respect of which the Department has not yet given a decision.'

Following a discussion towich Cllrs Hynes. Carroll and Mrs Glenn, Drs Behan, Powell and Walker Professor Doyle and Professor McCormick contributed the motion was agreed unanimously.

10/82

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The Secretary read a letter dates 7 January 1 982 from the Department of Health regarding the Report of the forking Group on the Organisation of General Hospital Services in south east Dublin and east Wicklow. stating that the views of all the bodies involved had been received, that the issues were being considered by the Minister and that a statement in relation to the recommendations would be made in the very near future.

11/82

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Mrs Bonar referred to reports on television and in the newspapers regarding alleged abuses of the General Medical Services scheme. She said that there was an implication in the reports that there was a widespread abuse of the scheme by pharmacists. If a small number of pharmacists were abusing the scheme they should be brought to justice. The Irish Pharmaceutical Union would support this course of action.

The meeting concluded at 7.30 p.m.

**CORRECT: P B Segrave**  
Chief Executive Officer



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Brennan", is written over a horizontal line.

**CHAIRMAN**



## **EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

**Report of Meeting of Committee of the Whole House held in the  
Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital,  
on Thursday, 21 January, 1982 at 6.00 pm**

### **PRESENT**

**Ald B Ahern TD  
Dr. J D Behan  
Cllr Belton  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr D Browne  
Cllr M Carroll  
Cllr Mrs A Glenn TD  
Cllr A Groome**

**Cllr T Hand  
Mr K Harrington  
Cllr P Hickey  
Cllr F Hynes  
Ms N Kearney  
Mr M Matthews  
Cllr H Reilly  
Cllr W Willoughby**

### **APOLOGIES**

**Prof J S Doyle  
Ald A FitzGerald**

**Dr J Walker**

### **IN THE CHAIR**

**Cllr Dan Browne**

### **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

**Mr P B Segrave  
Mr T Keyes  
Mr K Hickey  
Mr PJ Swords  
Mr J Doyle  
Mr FJ McCullough  
Prof B O'Donnell**

**Dr V Molony  
Mr L Sweeney  
Mr M O'Connor  
Mr M Cummins  
Miss B Blanche  
Miss F. Carolan  
Mr McCann**

At the commencement of the meeting, on the suggestion of Cllr Mrs A Glenn, it was agreed that the members' wishes for a speedy recovery should be conveyed to Miss E Fulham, Superintendent Public Health Nurse, Co Kildare.

The meeting had been arranged, as agreed at the December meeting of the Board, to consider the report of the Mental Handicap Committee "Planning Mental Handicap Services".

At the request of the Chairman the Chief Executive Officer introduced his report no. 41/1981 of 2 December 1981.

"Members of the Board have been given copies of the report entitled 'Planning Mental Handicap Services' which was drawn up by the special Mental Handicap Committee comprising the Medical Directors of the voluntary organisations providing services for the mentally handicapped in the Board's functional area and officers of our Board.

As explained in the foreword to the Report, this Committee originated in 1968 with the objective of co-ordinating the efforts of the voluntary organisations and the Dublin Health Authority, which was the statutory body then responsible for the provision of those services. The Committee has continued in existence since the Eastern Health Board succeeded to this statutory responsibility.

Members will also have received copies of the Report entitled 'Services for the Mentally Handicapped' which was produced by a Working Party set up by the Minister for Health.

Following publication of the latter report, the Board's co-ordinating committee undertook a review of the state of development of the mental handicap services in the Eastern Health Board area. The purpose of this review was to ascertain the present needs of the services and to draw up guidelines for the assistance of the Board and the Department of Health in planning a comprehensive community-based service.

The Committee has now completed that task and has submitted its recommendations. These are based on the concept of the development of comprehensive mental handicap services on a catchment area basis, aimed at the maintenance of mentally handicapped persons in the community for as long as possible.

In examining the Committee's recommendations, it will be necessary for the Board, in its role as co-ordinator and as the body responsible for the development of the services in its area, to determine how best the services can be decentralised, and a co-ordinated move towards comprehensive catchment area services and facilities be brought about, if this basic concept is acceptable.

With a view to the implementation of the Board's decisions and priorities for the further development of this important service I have assigned Mr Frank McCullough to the Mental Handicap Service on a full-time basis".

Dr Vincent Molony, Director of Mental Handicap, explained the six major basic social skills, which were used in assessing mentally handicapped persons to categorise them into one of the four recognised groupings:

- (i) **Profoundly Handicapped**
- (ii) **Severely Handicapped**
- (iii) **Moderately Handicapped**
- (iv) **Mildly Handicapped**

He described the type of care needed by each of the groups and the ages up to which they could reside in their own homes. He also elaborated on the main recommendations contained in the report of the Mental Handicap Committee.

In a discussion on the Report, to which Cllrs Hynes, Mrs Glenn, Carroll, Reilly and Ahern. Miss Kearney, Mr Harrington, Dr Behan, Mrs Bonar and Mr Matthews contributed, the members of the Mental Handicap Committee were complimented on the production of a very worthwhile report.

With regard to the development of hostels/community homes Dr Molony stated that the Committee had suggested that two semi-detached houses in each parish should be obtained for use as hostels. In this connection Cllr Reilly stated that public representatives should put pressure on their respective local authorities to provide housing for the handicapped. He had expected that some progress would have been made in this area during 1981 - the International Year of Disabled Persons. In this connection it was stated that Monaghan County Council had resolved some years ago to devote 1 % of their houses for use as hostels and community homes and that the urban district councils had followed their example. They now had 23 such hostels in the County and the arrangement was working quite well.

The following motion was then proposed by Dr Behan, seconded by Cllr Mrs Glenn, and unanimously agreed:

"That the Board adopt the Report of the Mental Handicap Committee and seek an early deputation from the Board to the Minister for Health to seek the early implementation of its recommendations."

The members thanked Mr McCullough and Dr Molony for the manner in which they had answered their questions.

**The meeting concluded at 8.00 p.m.**

**CORRECT: P B Segrave  
Chief Executive Officer**

**Chairman**

## EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in the Boardroom  
St Brendan's Hospital  
on Thursday, 4 February 1982 at 6.00 pm

### PRESENT

Dr J Behan  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr D Browne  
Cllr M Carroll  
Prof J S Doyle  
Cllr Mrs A Glenn TD  
Cllr A Groome  
Cllr P Hickey  
Cllr F Hynes  
Ms N Kearney  
Dr D G Kelly

Dr P McCarthy  
Prof J McCormick  
Sr Columba McNamara  
Mr M Matthews  
Dr A Meade  
Dr B Powell  
Dr B Sheehan  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr G Timmins TD  
Cllr W Willoughby

### APOLOGIES

Ald B Aheme TD  
Mr K Harrington

Dr J Walker

IN THE CHAIR  
Cllr Dan Browne

### OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr P B Segrave  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr T Keyes  
Mr K Hickey  
Mr J Reynolds  
Mr P I Lyons  
Prof B O'Donnell  
Mr P J Swords  
Mr J Doyle  
Mr F J McCullough

Mr A O'Brien  
Miss A Flanagan  
Mr C Mansfield  
Mr K Ward  
Mr M O'Connor  
Mr M Cummins  
Mr J Leech  
Miss E Larkin  
Miss R Carolan

12/82

**CONDOLENCE**

The Chairman informed the members of the recent death of the son of Mr Mark Clinton, a former Chairman of the Board. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect.

13/82

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 7 January 1982, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Carroll.

14/82

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

Dr Behan requested permission to have Standing Orders suspended to allow him to move a motion that the Board should hold a Special Meeting to consider the plight of elderly people living alone and this was agreed. The following motion was then proposed by Dr Behan, seconded by Cllr Carroll, and agreed unanimously.

"That this Health Board convene an urgent Special Meeting of the Board to examine the plight and needs of elderly people living alone in squalid conditions of poverty and that this meeting afford Mr Willie Birmingham, founder of ALONE, the opportunity to put his case before the Board for assistance in the form of a Task Force."

15/82

**REPORT OF MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE**

The report of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole House held on 21 January 1982 to consider the Report of the Mental Handicap Committee "Planning Mental Handicap Services", having been circulated, was adopted on a proposal by Dr Behan, seconded by Cllr Hickey.

16/82

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Chief Executive Officer read the following report, which was noted by the Board:

- (i) The present professional members of the Board were elected for a period of five years with effect from 1 July 1977. Therefore, under the appropriate regulations, it is necessary to hold elections for professional members who will take up appointment with effect from 1 July 1982. I have circulated a detailed memorandum to the members outlining the situation.
- (ii) The Local Government and Public Services Union has advised me that as from Tuesday next, 9 February, its members employed by our Board will not co-operate with Directors of Community Care and Medical Officers of Health. The Union states that it has been in dispute for several years concerning the organisation of Community Care services.

particularly the inclusion by the Minister for Health of a medical qualification as essential for the post of Director. We are continuing discussions with the Union and the Department of Health in the matter. A further meeting has been arranged for tomorrow morning.

- (iii) Members will be aware that we have leased 4.2 acres adjoining St Mary's Hospital, Phoenix Park, to the Cheshire Foundation which provided the site upon which the Cara Cheshire Home has been built. The Foundation has now indicated that the Cara Home wishes to widen its scope to embrace a residential home for severely disabled, a transition unit for residents who, following a period in a supportive situation, would then probably manage outside the home and a day centre for disabled adults. An application has now been received from the Foundation for a further small area of ground (0.462 acres) adjoining the rear of their existing site to facilitate the construction of such units. The area required will not interfere with the amenities of St Mary's Hospital and the particular piece of ground is not suitable or required for developments at the Hospital. I propose, subject to the agreement of the Board, to issue to the members a Section 83 notice for our next Board meeting proposing the granting of a sub-lease to the Cheshire Foundation in Ireland of the area requested subject to the same conditions as the existing sub-lease granted to the Foundation in 1967 at a nominal rent of £10 per annum.

The members agreed to the issue of a Section 83 notice for the next meeting of the Board.

17/82

#### PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEE

The report of the Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held in Area 4 (Tallaght) on 2 December 1981, having been circulated, was noted on a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Hickey.

18/82

#### DISPOSAL OF DISPENSARY RESIDENCE (AND LAND ATTACHED) AT BLESSINGTON, CO WICKLOW

Consideration of Report No 38/1981 from the Chief Executive Officer, which was before the Board at its December meeting, was deferred until the January meeting. At the January meeting it was agreed to postpone further consideration of the matter until the February meeting, by which time the Wicklow Local Committee would have had an opportunity to make its recommendation.

The Secretary read a letter dated 25 January 1982 from the Wicklow Local Committee stating that at their meeting held on 22 January the following resolution had been proposed by Cllr Timmins, seconded by Cllr Deering, and passed by 12 votes to 7:

"This Committee recommends to the Eastern Health Board that Blessington Dispensary Residence and out offices be sold by the Board to Dr P K Joyce, Blessington, in accordance with Report No 38/1981 and that it be recommended to the Minister that the proceeds of the sale be earmarked for the purpose of erecting a new Health Centre on the Board's site in Blessington."

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Hynes, Groome, Hickey, Mrs Glenn, Sweeney, Carroll, Timmins, the Chairman, Cllr Browne, Dr Powell, Dr Meade, Mr Matthews, Miss Kearney, Dr Behan, Dr Kelly, Mrs Bonar and Professor McCormick contributed, the following motion was proposed by Dr Meade and seconded by Professor Doyle:

"That proposal contained in Report No 38/1981 re disposal of dispensary residence (and land attached) at Blessington, Co Wicklow be approved"

The voting on the motion was as follows:

For: 15: Dr Behan, Mrs Bonar, Cllr Browne, Cllr Carroll, Professor Doyle, Cllr Mrs Glenn, Dr Kelly, Dr McCarthy, Professor McCormick, Sr Columba, Dr Meade, Dr Powell, Dr Sheehan, Cllr Timmins, Cllr Willoughby.

Against: 6: Cllr Groome, Cllr Hickey, Cllr Hynes, Miss Kearney, Mr Matthews, Cllr Sweeney.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

19/82

#### ALLOCATION FOR NON CAPITAL HEALTH SERVICES EXPENDITURE 1982

The Chief Executive Officer read his Report No 3/1982

"We have circulated to the members a letter from the Department of Health dated 27 January 1982 advising the Board of our allocation for non-capital health expenditure in 1982.

The allocation for direct expenditure (excluding £ 18.5 million earmarked as our share of the expenses of the General Medical Services (Payments) Board) totals £112.9 millions.

Our estimate of the cost of maintaining existing services at current levels in 1982 is £120.4m. The allocation is £7.5m less than this figure. We have been advised, however, that the Department propose taking certain measures which would substantially reduce this initial shortfall. In this regard it will be noted from Circular 3/82 (already circulated) that from 1 February 1982 (a) the level of charges which are made in respect of private and semi-private accommodation in public hospitals has been increased and (b) the subvention rates payable in respect of private hospitals, nursing and maternity homes, and private psychiatric hospitals have been reduced. In addition to this the letter of 27 January 1982 indicates further areas where measures to reduce expenditure may be taken.

When all the measures are decided and costed, we will be able to assess the true extent of the shortfall and recommend appropriate action.

The Department in the letter of allocation has asked us to review existing service levels and determine where adjustments must be made so as to ensure that the limits of the expenditure allocation will be observed. We have begun this task against the background outlined with a view to advising the Board of the implications involved.

We are approaching the examination of both the pay and non-pay sections of our budget with a view to ensuring that, to the extent to which it is possible to do so, the impact of the necessary budgetary adjustments on our patients and those at risk is minimised and we are seeking the co-operation of all of our staff towards this end.



We are also examining existing schemes to see if and where, in the context of our responsibilities, resources, including staff, could be more effectively utilised.

When this exercise is completed I will report again to the Board."

Following a discussion to which Dr» Behan, Sheehan, Meade, Kelly, Professor McCormick, Sr Coiumba, Cllrs Hickey, Carroll, Sweeney and Hynes contributed and to which the Chief Executive Officer replied, the report was noted.

20/82

#### PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES

The reports of the following Local Committees, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:

- (i) Dublin county Local Committie held on 10 December 1981.

On a proposal by Cllr Carroll, seconded by Mrs Bonar. the report was noted

- ( i i ) Dublin City Local Committee meeting held on 16 December 1981.

On a proposal by Professor Doyle, seconded by Cllr Carroll, the report was noted.

21/82

#### CORRESPONDENCE

- (i) Department of Health circular 1/82 of 7 January, 1982 regarding Travelling and Subsistence Expenses for members of Health Boards had been circulated. The following motion was proposed by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, and unanimously agreed:

"That travelling expenses in respect of attendance at meetings be paid to members at a rate not exceeding 37p per mile with effect from 1 September 1981."

- (ii) The Secretary read a letter from the Minister for Health to the Chairman expressing her appreciation of the initiative and endeavour displayed by the Health Board during the blizzard and in its aftermath. She requested him to convey to the Chief Executive and the other officers involved her personal thanks for the work which was done and for the excellent liaison which was at all times maintained with her Department. She requested the Board to let her have a report on the work carried out in handling the problems which presented themselves and stated that she would appreciate comments on any lessons which had been learned from experiences in respect of services the Board was required to provide and also in respect of the operation of all other services in the emergency.

Cllr Sweeney stated that, on behalf of the people of Wickow, he wished to thank the Wicklow Community Care team and other officers of the Board for the manner in which they had provided services during the blizzard. He referred to the communication difficulties which existed because of the absence of a radio-telephone link between the Gardai and the helicopter crews.

22/82

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Sr Columba referred to problems, which had arisen regarding nurses accompanying certain patients while they were being transported by ambulance. Mr Hickey, Programme Manager, undertook to have the case referred to by Sr Columba examined on receipt of further details.

The meeting concluded at 8.15 pm.

**CORRECT: P B Segrave**  
Chief Executive Officer

**CHAIRMAN**

**EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in the Boardroom  
St Brendan's Hospital  
on Thursday, 4 March 1982 at 6.00 pm

**PRESENT**

Dr J Behan  
Cllr L Beton  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr D Browne  
Cllr M Carroll  
Cllr E Doyle  
Ald A FitzGerald TD  
Cllr M Freehill  
Cllr Mrs A Glenn  
Cllr A Groome  
Cllr T Hand  
Dr K Harrington  
Cllr P Hickey  
Cllr F Hynes

Dr D G Kelly  
Cllr T Leonard  
Dr P McCarthy  
Sr Columba McNamara  
Mr M Matthews  
Dr A Meade  
Dr B Powell  
Cllr H Reilly  
Dr B Sheehan  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr G Timmins TD  
Dr J Walker  
Cllr W Willoughby

**APOLOGIES**

Prof J S Doyle

**IN THE CHAIR**

Cllr Dan Browne

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr PB Segrave  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr T Keyes  
Mr K Hickey  
Mr J Reynolds  
Mr P I Lyons  
Mr L Kavanagh  
Prof B O'Donnell  
Mr PJ Swords  
Mr FJ McCullough  
Mr J Doyle  
Prof I Browne

Miss A Flanagan  
Mr K Ward  
Mr T Brady  
Mr M O'Connor  
Mr M Cummins  
Mr J Leech  
Miss P Curtin  
Miss M Rice  
Miss T Downes  
Miss E Larkin  
Miss B Kelly

**23/82 CONDOLENCE**

The Chairman informed the members of the recent death of Mai Keogh, former Matron of St Brigid's Home, Crooksling. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect.

24/82

**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

- (i) The Chairman informed the members of the retirement of Mr PI Lyons, the Board's Personnel Officer for the past three years. He paid tribute to Mr Lyons in respect of his services to the Board and, on his own behalf, and on behalf of the members, wished him a long and contented retirement.
- (ii) The Chairman welcomed Mr Liam Kavanagh who had taken up duty as Personnel Officer on 2 March 1982.
- (iii) The Chairman informed the members that a special meeting of the Board would be held at 6.00 pm on Thursday, 18 March 1982 during which Mr W Bermingham, founder of ALONE, would address the members.

25/82

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 4 February 1982, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes.

26/82

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

Cllr Reilly requested permission to have Standing Orders suspended to allow a debate to take place on the introduction by the Board of means testing in the supply of drugs, aids and medicines and this was agreed. Following a discussion to which Cllrs Reilly, Freehill, Hickey, Hand, Hynes and Dr Behan contributed, in which the members expressed their opposition to the introduction (if means testing and to which Mr Donohue replied, it was noted that Cllr Freehill had tabled a motion on this subject for the April meeting of the Board.

27/82

**PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEES**

The report of the Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held in Area 1 (Dun Laoghaire) on 6 January 1982, on a proposal by Cllr Carroll, seconded by Dr Harrington, was noted. It was agreed that a report on accommodation for the community care team would be submitted to the next meeting of the Health Board.

## 2 KF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Chief Executive Officer read the following report which was noted by the Board

## (i) Report No 7/1982

At our last Board meeting I circulated to our members the Department of Health letter dated 27 January 1982. advising the Board that the Minister had approved an allocation of £11 2.9m to cover the non-capital expenditure incurred directly by our Board on health services in 1982.

I informed the Board that this allocation was £7.5m short of the £1 20.4m which the Board's Management Team considered was necessary to maintain our existing services at their current level.

I should emphasise that our estimate of our requirements for 1982 was worked out by the Board's officers in the full realisation of the present economic circumstances and our estimate of £120.4m, therefore, represented our Board's minimum requirements. We were aware that to maintain our expenditure at this level we would have to make appreciable economies in the running of the service. I am happy to state that we have received cooperation from our staff who have adopted a constructive approach to meeting the difficulties which we all face in providing services and with particular reference to those most at risk in our area.

The problem now facing the Board is to determine how an admittedly restricted budget of £1 20.4m can be cut by a further £7.5m to the level of the allocation of £1 12.9m.

It was estimated by the Department of Health that approximately £4m could be found by measures which might be taken by the Department.

These were:

I	Adjustments in the Refund Medicines Scheme	£1.9m
II	Reduction of subvention rates in respect of private hospitals, nursing and maternity homes and private psychiatric hospitals	£1 -6m
III	Increase charges on long stay paying patients	£0.5m
	Total	£4.0m

I should point out that we have been given no details as yet of the proposed change in the Refund of Medicine Scheme and I can only comment that any such change will have to be quite drastic if it is to realise the expected savings.

The reduction in the subvention rates referred to above is already causing some anxiety. We have been notified by some institutions that they cannot afford to maintain patients on the reduced subvention rate and that in these circumstances they will have no option but to discharge some patients. The likelihood is that these patients, particularly those who are very old or mentally ill, may have to be admitted to our hospitals. Thus the savings envisaged in financing voluntary institutions may be negative by the increased costs to our own services.

Even allowing that the Department measures will result in a saving of £4m there remains a further £3.5m which has to be cut back. This can only be done by cutting back on our existing services. Such a step involves a number of fundamental policy issues which must be considered.

1. With the exception of the relatively small hospitals at Loughlinstown and Naas our Board has no acute general hospitals. The Department of Health letter of 27 January 1982 thus presents us with a very major dilemma: we cannot ensure that the limits of the expenditure allocation will be observed and at the same time "have special regard to priority areas of expenditure comprehended within the provision made for community care services, the mentally ill and the handicapped, the aged, maternity and children".

If cuts must be made, it is these very services which will be affected.

2. Many of the Board's services are at a level where any significant reduction in them would raise fundamental statutory questions. I have in mind particularly our psychiatric services where our facilities are already overcrowded and a further significant limitation of resources would force us to

(i) limit the admission of persons who are ill

(ii) discharge patients who are not capable of coping in the community,  
or

(iii) add to the already overcrowded conditions in our hospitals.

Experience shows that any curtailment of resources for psychiatric care leads to overcrowding and a reversion to nineteenth century standards of custodial care.

These considerations apply with equal force to our mental handicap service.

3. Our facilities for the aged are extremely limited and operate in the face of continuing and increased demand for places. As I mentioned already the drastic cut in subvention rates must have the effect of making this demand even greater. Here again much of our building stock is of poor condition. In some instances, we continue to house patients in galvanised iron units.

However, if savings of the magnitude under consideration are to be achieved, options of the following nature face our Board: -

<b>General Hospitals Programme</b>	<b>£</b>
No further admission to our geriatric hospitals.	
Closure of some wards for three summer months.	1.145,000
Decrease grant to voluntary organisations.	
More stringent assessment of long stay patients.	
 <b>Special Hospital Programme</b>	
Closure of Therapy Unit. Central Mental Hospital.	
Closure of five wards in psychiatric hospitals.	1,155,000
Closure of unit for persons of no fixed abode.	
Reduce grants to voluntary bodies.	
 <b>Community Care Programme</b>	
Terminate Ad Hoc Dental Scheme.	300,000
Terminate Ophthalmic Scheme.	250,000
Reduce Section 65 Grants.	250,000
Apply more stringent criteria to assessment of applicants for disabled persons allowances.	300,000
Restrict placement of children in residential care.	100,000 1,200,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,500,000</b>

These extreme measures which would involve a reduction or elimination of services, a reduction in staff would of course have to be discussed with clinicians and with staff representatives.

I should point out again, however, that these measures are illustrative of the significant level of action which is required given the level of cut-back and the important fact that we are already two months into 1982.

There is also the extreme difficulty of suddenly putting into effect unplanned, major cut-backs in an already over-stretched service catering for an ever increasing dependant population.

We are aware that our Board members too will be extremely concerned that the measures to be taken pose the danger of significant damage being done to the fabric of our services and to the morale of our staff.

Nevertheless, I must advise the Board that in the almost impossibly difficult situation which we face if the allocation is not increased these are the kind of options open to the Board.

Following a discussion to which the Chairman, Or Behan, Cllr Mrs Glenn, Cllr Sweeney, Mrs Bonar, Or Sheehan, Cllr Doyle, Sr Columba, Or Meade, Cllrs Reilly, Freehill, Hynes, Hand and Dr Kelly contributed, it was agreed that an immediate meeting should be sought with the Minister for Health which would be attended by the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and that a Committee Meeting of the Whole House should be held on Thursday, 18 March 1982 at 7.00 pm to enable the members to consider the action to be taken to deal with the reduction of an already restricted budget of £ 120.4m to the level of allocation of £112.9m.

(ii) Committee on Children Sleeping Rough

In December 1977 our Board, in response to an invitation from Dublin City Council, agreed to participate with that Council in the formation of a Committee on Children Sleeping Rough and adopted the following resolution:

'That a Special Committee be set up consisting of members of the Eastern Health Board and Dublin Corporation to seek ways and means of coping with the problem of children sleeping rough in the Dublin area.'

The Committee has not met for some time. However, Dublin Corporation has written to us suggesting that the Committee be re-convened.

Our records indicate that the following eight persons were the Board's nominees to the Committee when it last met:

Alderman A FitzGerald  
 Councillor J Connolly  
 Councillor J Durning  
 Councillor T Leonard, PC  
 Dr J D Behan  
 Mr H Corrigan, FPSI  
 Ms N Kearney  
 Dr B Powell

As Mr Corrigan, Cllr Connolly and the late Mr Durning are not now members of our Board it will be necessary for our Board, if it wishes to continue to participate, to recommend three new members to the Committee.

Our Board is also asked to agree to continue the nomination of Dr P McCarthy as an Advisor to the Committee.

The following members were nominated to be members of the Committee:

Cllrs Hand, Barton, Browne, Reilly and Mrs Bonar.

(iii) The Minister for Health has appointed Mr F J Donohue, Programme Manager, Community Care as a member of the Dental Hospital Board with effect from 4 March 1982 for the period ending 31 December 1983

(iv) The Minister for Health has recently made regulations increasing from the 1 March 1982 the fees payable by the public to Registrars of Births, Deaths and Marriages. A copy of letter dated 24 February 1982 from the Department of Health in this matter has been circulated to each member.

(v) There is a vacancy in the Dublin County Local Committee caused by the resignation of Miss D Fitzsimons, Public Health Nurse. Arrangements are being made to replace Miss Fitzsimons under the relevant regulations and a proposal will be submitted to the Board in this regard at the April meeting.

(vi) Members will have received two letters from the Secretary/Manager of the James Connolly Memorial Hospital, Blanchardstown, one of which has been circulated with the agenda and the other, dated 2 March 1982, which has been circulated this evening. Both letters relate to the establishment and membership of the Board of the James Connolly Memorial Hospital.

On a proposal by Cllr Carroll, seconded by Cllr Hand, it was agreed that Mr J J Nolan and Mr F Elliott be reelected as members of the Board of the James Connolly Memorial Hospital.

(vii) Our Board by agreement dated 22 September 1980 leased a site at St James's Hospital, Dublin to the Biological and Medical Research Institute.

We have now received a request from that Institute requesting our Board's agreement to effect the transfer of the rights and interests enjoyed under the lease by that Institute to the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology which, it is indicated, will, in 1982, become the owners and operators of the BMRI's facilities in Dublin.

The relevant clause in the agreement for lease is as follows:

'The Institute shall not assign sub-let or part with possession of the premises (including the buildings erected thereon) or any part thereof save to an accredited successor in title to the Institute and with the consent of the Health Board.'

I am having the request examined with a view to its consideration by the Board at the April meeting.



**(viii) Consultant Posts - Naas Hospital**

Our Board has applied to Comhairle na nOspideal for a number of new consultant posts at Naas Hospital. In this regard the applications subcommittee of Comhairle will visit Naas Hospital on Friday, 12 March 1982 at 10.00 a.m.

**(ix) Care of the Aged**

We have already advised the Board of an allocation of £70,000 which we have received from the Minister for Health based on funds from the Employment Guarantee Fund which has the dual objective of providing employment while improving the living conditions of persons in need, particularly the elderly.

Similar personal services for the elderly such as the Home Help service are provided in the main through voluntary organisations, and we are extending this concept through the co-operation of ANCO, the Department of Labour, Department of the Environment and the St Vincent de Paul Society. I am pleased to advise the Board of the co-operation we are receiving from these bodies and will keep the Board informed of further progress in due course.

**(x) Site at St James's Hospital**

I have circulated to the members a letter from Professor Howie regarding developments on the Board's property at St James's Hospital.

As I understand our Board's policy, it is our intention to facilitate the development of a major general hospital on that campus.

At the same time it is necessary for our Board to be assured of suitable accommodation for members and staff.

Against this background and the background of earlier arrangements for the re-location of our main offices in due course I have raised the matter with officers of the Department of Health and a meeting is arranged for later this month.

I shall advise the Board of developments.

29/82

**DISPOSAL OF LAND AT ST MARY'S HOSPITAL, PHOENIX PARK**

The following report no. 4/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted.

The Board holds the premises and grounds of St Mary's Hospital, Phoenix Park from the Minister for Finance on a 99 year lease dating from 1948 and subject to payment of an annual rent of £2,600.

In 1967 the Dublin Health Authority approved of the granting of a sublease to the Cheshire Foundation in Ireland on an area of 4.2 acres at a nominal rent of £ 10 per annum over and above rates and taxes for the residue of the 99 years. The Minister for Health consented to the disposal as proposed. The Cara Cheshire Home has since been built on the site.

The Foundation has now indicated that the Cara Home wishes to widen its scope to embrace a residential home for severely disabled, a transition unit for residents who, following a period in a supported situation, could then probably manage outside the Home, and a day centre for disabled adults.

An application has been received from the Foundation for an additional area of ground (0.462 acres) adjoining the rear of existing site to enable them to provide the necessary buildings. The area required will not interfere with the amenities of St Mary's Hospital and the particular piece of ground is not required for any developments at the Hospital.

The Commissioners of Public Works, as Agents of the Minister for Finance, approved of the 1967 sublease and an application for approval will be sent to them for this additional area.

I recommend that the Board approve of the granting of a sublease to the Cheshire Foundation in Ireland on an additional area of 0.462 acres for the residue of the period still to run on the Board's 99 year lease; this additional sublease to be subject to the same conditions as the existing sublease granted to the Foundation in 1967 on the 4.2 acres and also at a nominal rent of £10 per annum.

This Report is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946. Section 83 provides that at the first meeting of the Board held after the expiration of ten clear days from the date of circulation of this Report the Board may resolve that the disposal, as proposed, shall not be carried out or that it shall be carried out in accordance with terms specified in the resolution.

If the Board resolves that the disposal shall not be carried out, it shall not be carried out. If, on the other hand, the Board does not pass a resolution as to the manner in which the disposal shall be carried out the disposal may, with the consent of the Minister for Health, be carried out in the manner set out above.

On a proposal by Dr Behan seconded by Dr McCarthy it was agreed that the proposal contained in the report be approved.

30/1982

APPLICATION BY DOCTOR JOSEPH T O'NEILL, ATHY  
LODGE, ATHY, CO KILDARE TO EMPLOY A PARTNER

The following report no. 5/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted.

"Doctor Joseph T O'Neill. Athy Lodge. Athy, Co Kildare is participating in the Board's General Practitioner Service. He has a large list of eligible persons and his practice premises is at Athy Lodge, Athy, Co. Kildare.

In his letter of the 26 July 1981 he expressed a wish to employ a partner.

In accordance with paragraph 21'22 of the circular letter 8/75 dated the 9 April 1975 issued by the Department of Health, the Irish Medical Association and the Medical Union were asked for their observations on Doctor O'Neill's request. In letters dated 2 October 1981 and 14 October 1981 the Medical Union and the Irish Medical Association respectively stated that they had no objection to Doctor O'Neill's proposal.

I recommend, subject to the approval of the Board, that Doctor O'Neill's request be approved and that a partner for him be selected in accordance with the procedure laid down in paragraphs 21/22 of the Department's circular letter 8/75 dated 9 April 1975.

The relevant extract from this letter is as follows:

21. The creation of a position as partner, or as an additional member of a group practice, or as an assistant with a view to partnership for the purpose of the general medical service, will be subject to the approval of the Health Board. In considering any such proposal the Board shall have regard to the total practice of the applicant.

Before giving approval the Board must be satisfied:

(a) that the creation of the position is preferable to the creation of an additional position which could be filled by open competition in the normal way; and

(b) that the creation of the position will not result in the admission of a particular person into the general medical service while other equally well or better qualified persons are not given a reasonable chance to compete. Where the Chief Executive Officer proposes to seek the approval of the Board to the creation of a position as partner, or as an additional member of a group practice, or as an assistant with a view to partnership he shall, before doing so, consult the medical organisations.

22. Where a Health Board agrees to the creation of a partnership or an addition to a group practice or to the recruitment of an assistant with a view to partnership the position will be advertised in the normal way but the doctor or doctors involved or a nominee of the doctor or doctors involved in the proposed taking in of a partner, or additional member or assistant will be entitled to sit on the selection board. The selection board shall pay due regard to any objection of this representative to the giving of the post to a particular individual or individuals. If the Board considers it desirable it may not recommend any candidate for appointment."

On a proposal by Dr Walker seconded by Dr Harrington the proposal contained in the report was approved.

31/82

#### TEMPORARY BORROWING

The following report no. 6/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted

"At meeting held on 3 December 1981 the Board consented to the temporary borrowing by way of overdraft up to an overall limit of £1.5 million during the quarter ending 31 March 1982.

It is considered that similar overdraft accommodation may be required during the June quarter 1982.

Accordingly, I request that the Board consents to borrowing by way of overdraft during the three months to 30 June 1982 up to a maximum of £1.5 million."

On a proposal by Cllr Carroll seconded by Cllr Sweeney the proposal contained in the report was approved.

32/82

**REPORT OF BOARD COMMITTEE ON SUPPORT SYSTEMS  
FOR UNWANTED PREGNANCIES**

It was agreed that this item should be placed on the Agenda for the April meeting of the Board.

33/82

**APPOINTMENT OF NOMINEE TO IRISH PUBLIC BODIES  
MUTUAL INSURANCES LTD.**

It was agreed that Cllr Carroll be nominated to represent the Board at meetings of the Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd.

34/82

**PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES**

The reports of the following Local Committees, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:

(i) Dun Laoghaire Local Committee meeting held on 19 January 1982.

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Freehill, the report was noted.

(ii) Wicklow Local Committee meeting held on 22 January 1982.

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, the report was noted.

(iii) Kildare Local Committee meeting held on 28 January 1982.

On a proposal by Cllr Groome, seconded by Cllr Hickey, the report was noted.

**35/82 CORRESPONDENCE**

(i) Letter dated 29 January 1982 from the Secretary/Manager, James Connolly Memorial Hospital, Blanchardstown regarding the constitution of the James Connolly Memorial Hospital Board was noted.

(ii) Circular 4/1982 dated 15 February, 1982 from the Department of Health regarding additional resources for Pre-School Services was noted.

The meeting concluded at 8.30 pm.

**CORRECT: PB Segrave  
Chief Executive Officer**

**CHAIRMAN**

**EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

Minutes of proceedings of Special Meeting of the Eastern Health Board held in the Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital on Thursday 18 March 1982 at 6 pm

**PRESENT**

**Ald B Ahem TD**

**Dr J D Behan**

**Mrs B Bonar**

**Cllr D Browne**

**Cllr M Carroll**

**Cllr M Freehill**

**Cllr A Groome**

**Cllr T Hand**

**Mr K Harrington**

**Cllr F Hynes**

**Dr P McCarthy**

**Sr Columba McNamara**

**Mr M Matthews**

**Cllr H Reilly**

**Dr B Sheehan**

**Cllr E Stagg**

**Cllr J Sweeney**

**APOLOGIES**

**Prof J S Doyle**

**Cllr BJ Durkan**

**Ms N Kearney**

**Dr A Meade**

**IN THE CHAIR**

**Cllr Dan Browne**

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

**Mr P B Segrave**

**Mr F J Donohue**

**Mr T Keyes**

**Mr L Kavanagh**

**Prof I Browne**

**Mr K Hickey**

**Prof B O'Donnell**

**Mr P J Swords**

**Mr J Doyle**

**Mr M Hayden**

**Miss A Flanagan**

**Mr C Mansfield**

**Mr M O'Connor**

**Miss M McGahern**

**Mr M Cummins**

**Miss E Larkin**

**Miss E Mattimoe**

**Mr T Brady**

The Special Meeting had been arranged following the adoption of the following resolution by the Board at its meeting held on 4 February 1982:

"That this Board convene an urgent special meeting of the Board to examine the plight and needs of elderly people living alone in squalid conditions of poverty and that this meeting afford Mr Willie Bermingham, founder of ALONE, the opportunity to put his case before the Board for assistance in the form of a Task Force."

Mr Bermingham who was accompanied by Mr Liam O'Cunaigh, was welcomed by the Chairman and invited to address the Board.

Mr Bermingham thanked the Health Board for allowing him the opportunity to address the members. He gave details of the work which had been done by the ALONE organisation since it was founded five years ago and stated that his organisation would continue to provide a back-up service for the various statutory services. He requested the Health Board to consider the establishment of a joint Task Force comprising staff from the Dublin Corporation and the Eastern Health Board who would travel in an unmarked van carrying fumigation and cleaning equipment which would enable them to make houses clean and safe for other statutory and voluntary workers to enter.

In response to questions from Dr Behan, Dr Harrington, Dr Sheehan, Cllrs Freehill, Reilly, Stagg, Hynes, Carroll and Mr Matthews, Mr Bermingham and Mr O'Cunaigh provided the members with further information regarding the activities of ALONE.

Mr O'Cunaigh stated that voluntary workers from ALONE visit two thousand people and he estimated that approximately one-third of these are living in what could be described as intolerable conditions.

Mr Bermingham stated that they had spent £134,000 on the purchase of seven houses in Dublin during the past year in which they have rehoused people who had been living in unfit housing.

The Chairman thanked Mr Bermingham and Mr O'Cunaigh for coming to the meeting and stated that the Board would note their remarks and examine the possibility of establishing a Task Force as requested.

Mr Bermingham thanked the Board for the courtesy extended to his organisation and withdrew from the meeting.

Following a discussion, to which Dr Behan, Cllr Freehill, Dr Harrington, Cllr Reilly and Stagg contributed, it was agreed that this matter should be considered further at the April meeting of the Board and that the report of the Care of the Aged Committee should be re-circulated to the members.

The meeting concluded at 7.10 pm

**CORRECT: P B Segrave**  
Chief Executive Officer

**CHAIRMAN**





# **EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

**Report of Meeting of Committee of the Whole House held in the  
Boardroom, St. Brendan's Hospital on Thursday 18 March 1982 at  
7.15 pm**

## **PRESENT**

**Ald B Ahem TD  
Dr J D Behan  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr D Browne  
CUr M Carroll  
Cllr M Freehill  
Cllr A Groome  
Cllr T Hand  
Mr K Harrington**

**Cllr F Hynes  
Dr P McCarthy  
Sr Columba McNamara  
Mr M Matthews  
Cllr H Reilly  
Dr B Sheehan  
Cllr E Stagg  
Cllr J Sweeney**

## **APOLOGIES**

**Prof J S Doyle  
Cllr B J Durkan**

**Ms N Kearney  
Dr A Meade**

## **IN THE CHAIR**

**Cllr Dan Browne**

## **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

**Mr P B Segrave  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr T Keyes  
Mr L Kavanagh  
Prof I Browne  
Mr K Hickey  
Prof B O'Donnell  
Mr P J Swords  
Mr J Doyle**

**Mr M Hayden  
Miss A Flanagan  
Mr C Mansfield  
Mr M O'Connor  
Miss M McGahern  
Mr M Cummins  
Miss E Larkin  
Miss E Mattimoe  
Mr T Brady**

The chief Executive Officer referred to report no. 3/1982 which was submitted to the February-meeting of the Board in which he advised that the minimum requirement for me Board to maintain existing services at their current level was £120.4m and that, even to Stay within that level, savings would have to be found. He also referred to report no. 7/1982 which was submitted to the March meeting of the Board and in which he outlined the position in some detail with a view to advising the members of:

- (a) extent of the cuts
- (b) the implications for the Board
- (c) the unique position obtaining in the Eastern Health Board area in mat, with the exception of the small hospitals at Loughlinstown and Naas, the Board did not have a pool of acute general hospitals within which it was expected that health boards might be able to achieve savings.

In that Report he had advised the members of the Department's estimate that approximately £4m could be found by measures which might be undertaken by the Department and outlined some of the options which would face the Board if attempts were made to effect a reduction over the three programmes, i.e. £1.2m off each.

At the March meeting of the Board it had been agreed that the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer should seek a meeting with the Minister for Health to discuss the revenue allocation. In this connection the Chief Executive Officer read a letter dated 16 March 1982 from the Secretary, Department of Health, stating that the Minister would be prepared to meet with the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and that he would be in touch with him soon to arrange a date. The Chief Executive Officer also referred to his letter addressed to each member of the Board on 15 March, 1982 with which he enclosed statement showing:

- (a) expected cost of providing services for 1981
- (b) the estimated cost of maintaining those services at their current levels in 1982.

In the discussion which followed, to which the Chairman, Cllrs Hand, Sweeney, Reilly, Hynes, Stagg, Freehill, Dr Sheehan, Dr Behan and Mrs Bonar contributed, the following points were made:

- (i) Members were opposed to any cut-back in service levels.
- (ii) Dissatisfaction was expressed with the manner in which the scheme for Supplementary Welfare Allowances is financed.
- (iii) The members felt they should have an input into the budget for the voluntary hospitals (£134.58m).
- (iv) The members should ask to see an account rendered of

**£146m provided for payments in respect of services for eligible patients in voluntary hospitals and for services provided for eligible patients, in homes for mentally handicapped persons.**

- (v) Concern was expressed at the estimated cost of running St. Brendan's Hospital (£12.79m) and St. Ita's Hospital (£9.263m).**
- (vi) The implementation of recommendation contained in the Trident Report on the supply of drugs and medicines regarding the prescription of generic type drugs should be pursued.**
- (vii) The health board should charge economic rents to those who availed of facilities in its health centres.**
- (viii) Some of the newer and larger health centres do not appear to be fully utilised - consideration should be given to the running of additional clinics in these centres to cater for an expanding population and to save patients the trouble and expense of travelling into centre city hospitals.**
- (ix) The requirement on G. M. S. patients to attend their doctor on a monthly basis for renewal of prescriptions is expensive; private patients can obtain prescriptions to cover six months supply of drugs without renewal by their doctor.**

**The Chief Executive Officer stated that, in any situation where cuts must be made, the concern of the Board would be for those who are least well off and for those who are in the Board's care because they have no alternative. With regard to the cost of running large psychiatric institutions, he pointed out that the Board found itself in a vicious circle where the available money is being spent on repairs and renovations in an effort to maintain old buildings in a habitable condition. This resulted in little or no resources being available to develop the much needed and alternative community based services. He agreed that staffing costs in the traditional hospital setting were not decreasing. In this connection two project teams had been established, one for St. Brendan's Hospital and one for St. Ita's Hospital.**

**Dr. Behan had a proposal which he was unable to put before the meeting because of the absence of a quorum. He indicated that he would put his proposal down as a motion for consideration by the Board at its April meeting.**

**The meeting concluded at 9 pm.**

**CORRECT: P B Segrave  
Chief Executive Officer  
Chairman**



4/3/82

**EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in the Boardroom  
St Brendan's Hospital  
on Thursday, 1 April 1982 at 6.00 pm

**PRESENT**

Ald B Ahern TD  
Dr J D Behan  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr M Carroll  
Cllr E Doyle  
Cllr M Freehill  
Cllr A Groome  
Cllr T Hand  
Dr K Harrington  
Cllr P Hickey  
Cllr F Hynes  
Ms N Kearney  
Dr D G Kelly  
Cllr T Leonard TD

Dr P McCarthy  
Prof J McCormick  
Sr Columba McNamara  
Mr M Matthews  
Dr A Meade  
Dr B Powell  
Cllr H Reilly  
Dr B Sheehan  
Cllr E Stagg  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr G Timmins TD  
Dr J Walker  
Cllr W C Willoughby

**APOLOGIES**

Cllr D Browne

Prof J S Doyle

**IN THE CHAIR**

Cllr P Hickey

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr PB Segrave  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr T Keyes  
Mr K Hickey  
Mr J F Reynolds  
Mr L Kavanagh  
Prof B O'Donnell  
Mr FJ McCullough  
Mr P J Swords  
Mr J Doyle  
Miss A Flanagan

Mr A O'Brien  
Mr C Mansfield  
Mr T Brady  
Mr M O'Connor  
Mr M Cummins  
Mr J Leech  
Miss T Downes  
Miss M Rice  
Miss E Larkin  
Miss B Kelly  
Miss M Curtis

37/82

**CONDOLENCE**

The Chairman informed the members of the recent death of the mother of Mr Colm Murphy, Senior Executive Officer, Technical Services Department. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect.

38/82

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 4 March 1982 and of the special meeting held on 18 March 1982, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Dr Behan.

It was agreed that the following motion, which had been tabled by Dr Behan, could be taken in conjunction with the minutes of the special meeting.

"That, having heard the address of Mr Willie Bermingham of ALONE, the Health Board join with Dublin Corporation to establish a Task Force to co-operate with voluntary groups, such as ALONE and St Vincent de Paul, to deal with the plight and needs of elderly people living alone in conditions of poverty and squalor."

The motion was seconded by Cllr Hand and, following a discussion to which Professor McCormick, Cllrs Hynes, Reilly and Stagg contributed, was carried on a show of hands.

39/82

**REPORT OF MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE**

The report of the meeting of the Committee of the whole house held on 18 March 1982 to consider the revenue allocation for 1982, having been circulated, was adopted on a proposal by Dr Behan, seconded by Cllr Freehill.

It was agreed that the following motion, which had been tabled by Cllr Freehill, could be taken in conjunction with the report:

"That the Department of Health be requested to negotiate with the Chemical Industry Federation to get agreement on the revised arrangements for purchase of drugs which was recommended in the Trident Report."

The motion was seconded by Cllr Stagg and, following a discussion to which Dr Meade, Mrs Bonar and Dr Sheehan contributed, was agreed.

It was then agreed that the following motion, which had been tabled by Dr Behan, should be taken:

"That this Health Board having examined the Department's allocation for non-capital health expenditure, inform the new Minister for Health:

(a) that it will be unable to maintain its present level of service with a Shortfall of £7.5 million in its allocation without making unprecedented, severe and drastic cut-backs in services to patients coming from the most vulnerable sectors of society;

(b) that the Board has no function in, or control of, the expenditure of well over half of the health services' resources in the eastern region as the services provided by the Board are mainly for the mentally ill, the handicapped, the elderly and in community care;

(c) that whilst the Board is advised by its Chief Executive Officer that the shortfall can be met by the range of cut-backs outlined in report no. 7/1982, the Board is unwilling to implement such cut-backs in the services for deprived, elderly, handicapped and mentally ill patients except upon the direction of the Minister.

(d) that because of the category of patients for whom the Board provides services and because of the poor level of funding provided by the Department of Health for the Board's services to these patients in recent years, such arbitrary cut-backs would severely reduce the level and quality of the service to these patients for years to come, and that such a precipitous approach to economisation is damaging and counterproductive;

(e) that the Health Board recognises that the collective health services provided in this region are more costly and inefficient than they should be because they are badly planned and operate in an uncoordinated manner under separate authorities;

(f) that in the Board's view the best hopes of achieving an efficient economic health service lies in proper planning based upon an overall policy for the development of a balanced co-ordinated and integrated health service;

and accordingly, the Board urges the Minister for Health -

(i) to restore the Board's full allocation

(ii) to establish a joint Health Board-Department of Health Committee to review the total health services of the eastern region and to recommend an overall policy for the development of a balanced, coordinated health service with greater emphasis on prevention, primary and community care."

Before Dr Behan spoke to his motion the Chairman read the following report from the Chief Executive Officer:

"Our Board, at a meeting held on 4 March 1982 decided to ask the Minister for Health to meet the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer to discuss the serious problems created for the Board by the inadequate allocation for non-capital expenditure.

At our last meeting I told the Board that the Minister had advised us by letter dated 16 March 1982 that he was agreeable to the Board's request and that he would arrange an early meeting.

The Minister has now advised that he will meet with the Chairman and Chief Executive Officers of each health board tomorrow, Friday 2 April 1982 at 12 noon."

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman it was proposed by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Dr Powell and unanimously agreed that Cllr P Hickey should accompany the Chief Executive Officer at the meeting with the Minister for Health.

Dr Behan's motion was seconded by Cllr Reilly, and, following a discussion to which Professor McCormick, Cllr Stagg, Dr Powell and Dr Behan contributed, was carried on a show of hands.

On a proposal by Cllr Hand, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, it was agreed that the questions lodged should be answered.

**Question**

(i) Cllr Mary Freehill

"I wish to have clarification of all the services and prescribed aids which are available to medical card holders by our Board."

**Reply**

"Medical Cards are issued to persons with 'full eligibility' i.e., those who are unable without undue hardship to afford general practitioner, medical and surgical services for themselves and their dependants.

A medical card holder is entitled, free of charge, to the services of a doctor selected under the choice of doctor scheme and to obtain drugs, medicines and medical appliances prescribed by that doctor.

The full range of hospital services in a public ward and specialist diagnostic and treatment services on an out-patient basis in public hospitals are also made available without charge.

Medical card holders are eligible for dental, ophthalmic and aural services and to maternity and infant welfare services without charge."

**Question**

(ii) Cllr H Reilly

"When will people that suffer from asthma be considered as suffering from a long term illness?"

**Reply**

"Diseases and disabilities of a permanent long term nature in respect of which health boards are permitted to make arrangements for supply of drugs etc. are prescribed by the Minister for Health by regulation under Section 59 of the Health Act 1970. Our Board at a meeting held on 1 October 1981 decided to ask the Minister to place asthma on the list. The Department was notified of the Board's decision on 6 October 1981.

The Board's recommendation was acknowledged by the Minister on 14 October 1981. However, we have no indication as to whether or not asthma may be prescribed as a long term illness."

**Question**

(iii) Cllr T Hand

"What savings would be made if the Board's decision re Spina Bifida was carried out?"

**Reply**

"What we have done is to ask persons (other than medical card holders) for a statement of income with a view to determining whether or not some contribution could be afforded towards the cost of prescribed appliances-



At present our Board is faced with options restricting or indeed eliminating services for the aged, the mentally ill and psychiatric patients and many of whom are very poor and in the lower income groups.

Against this background and our Board's first priority of protecting those most vulnerable it would appear unreasonable of us not to ask for some contribution from, for example, those in the upper income group towards the cost of modern expensive aids.

Until we have had some further responses to our queries, it is not possible to say how much we may 'save'. In circumstances where the cost in our area of such appliances has increased from £40,000 in 1978 to almost a quarter of a million pounds in 1981 any savings would be very welcome."

**Question**

(iv) Dr J Behan

"To ask the Chief Executive Officer to ascertain from the Department of Health the full list of capital projects provided for in this year's health services capital allocation of £49.5 million with a statement of the amount allocated to each project and what the project is for?"

**Reply**

"The information requested has been sought from the Department of Health and will be made available to the Board when it comes to hand."

**Question**

(v) Dr J Behan

"To ask the Chief Executive Officer to obtain from the Department of Health a full statement of the capital allocation for health in each year since the health boards were established showing for each year the original and final allocation; the full list of projects undertaken in each year; the original and final allocation to each project and a breakdown by health board area with a specific identification as to what each project was for and as to which projects came under the functional control of the health boards and which did not?"

**Reply**

"The information requested has been sought from the Department of Health and will be made available to the Board when it comes to hand."

41/82

**REPORT OF BOARD COMMITTEE ON SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR UNWANTED PREGNANCIES**

Dr Powell, Chairman of the Committee, addressed the members on the contents of the report, which had been circulated, and illustrated his talk with appropriate slides. He thanked the members of the Committee and the officers of the Board who were associated with the work of the Committee for the co-operation which he had received.

Dr Walker, in proposing the adoption of the Report, congratulated Dr Powell and the other members of the Committee on their Report and stated that the Board's appreciation of their efforts should be recorded.

Mrs Bonar referred to the statement at the end of the Report that she dissented from any suggestion that contraception be taught in schools and, with the permission of the Chairman, circulated to the members a minority report submission.

Dr Walker's proposal was seconded by Cllr Hand and, following a discussion to which Mrs Bonar, Cllr Freehill, Mr Matthews, Dr Behan and Dr Sheehan contributed, was agreed.

42/82

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Chief Executive Officer read the following report which was agreed by the Board:

- <i> "Women's Aid which has been seeking new accommodation for use as a refuge for battered wives was advised in December last that a grant of up to £200,000 was being made available by the Minister for Health towards the provision of a new premises in the light of the fact that the former premises had been damaged by fire.

A site has been acquired and the Department has asked our Board to manage the construction of the building which will be transferred to our Board for use by Women's Aid in due course.

To facilitate all concerned, and to expedite the development, I have agreed to get the project under way and recommend that the Board agrees to our proceeding with the matter."

- (ii) "Board Meetings - May and June 1982

Last year our May Board Meeting was held in St Vincent's Hospital, Athy and the June meeting in St Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum.

It may be the members' wish to continue with this arrangement. If so, perhaps the May meeting could be held in Rathdrum and the June meeting in Athy."

## PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEES

The reports of the following Visiting Committees, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:

- (i) Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held in Area 5 (Cherry Orchard Hospital) on 3 March 1982:

On a proposal by Dr McCarthy, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, the report was noted.

- (ii) No. 2 Visiting Committee meeting held in Bru Chaoimhin, Cork Street on 16 March 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Dr McCarthy, the report was noted.

44/82

### APPLICATION BY DOCTOR EDWARD V RUTLEDGE, 6 ANGELSEA ROAD, DUBLIN 4, TO TAKE ON AN ASSISTANT WITH A VIEW TO PARTNERSHIP

The following report no. 8/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"Doctor Edward V Rutledge, 46 Anglesea Road, Dublin 4 is participating in the Board's General Practitioner Service. His practice premises is at 1 2 Thorncastle Street, Ringsend.

In his letter of the 16 September 1981 he expressed a wish to take on an assistant with a view to partnership. He has a large list of eligible persons and the average number of eligible persons per doctor in the area is high.

In accordance with paragraphs 21/22 of the circular letter 8/75 dated 9 April 1975 issued by the Department of Health, the Irish Medical Association and the Medical Union were asked for their observations on Dr Rutledge's request. In letters dated 6 and 10 November 1981 the Medical Union and the Irish Medical Association respectively stated that they had no objection to Dr Rutledge's proposal.

I recommend, subject to the approval of the Board, that Dr Rutledge's request be approved and that an assistant with a view to partnership be selected in accordance with the procedures laid down in Department of Health circulars 8/75 of 9 April 1975 and 9/81 of 26 June 1981. The relevant extract from circular 8/75 of 9 April 1975 is as follows:

'21. The creation of a position as partner, or as an additional member of a group practice, or as an assistant with a view to partnership for the purpose of the general medical service will be subject to the approval of the health board. In considering any such proposal the Board shall have regard to the total practice of the applicant. Before giving approval the Board must be satisfied:-

- (a) that the creation of the position is preferable to the creation of an additional position which could be filled by open competition in the normal way; and

(b) that the creation of the position will not result in the admission of a particular person into the general medical service while other equally well or better qualified persons are not given a reasonable chance to compete. Where the Chief Executive Officer proposes to seek the approval of the Board to the creation of a position as partner, or as an additional member of a group practice, or as an assistant with a view to partnership, he shall, before doing so, consult the medical organisations.

22. Where a health board agrees to the creation of a partnership or an addition to a group practice or the recruitment of an assistant with a view to partnership the selection procedure will be in accordance with that laid down in the Department of Health's circular 9/81 of 26 June 1981. The relevant extract of which is:-

- (a) Towards the end of each year health boards will make a projection of the number of assistantship and partnership posts likely to be created the following year.
- (b) A competition will then be advertised to establish a panel from which principals may choose partners and assistants with a view, for posts approved by health boards in the course of the following year. Doctors who hold the minimum qualifications as specified for entry to the GMS will be eligible for the competition.
- (c) The interview board will be composed of an independent chairman, a general practitioner, a medical officer of a health board and a member of a health board's management team. In view of the number of general practitioners which might be expected to apply, all candidates may not be called for interview.
- (d) Following interviews, the board will place on a panel the number of candidates determined for the coming year. This panel will be notified to the Chief Executive Officers, preferably before January of the year for which it is operative, and will last for twelve months from the date of notification. The panel will also be notified to each of the medical organisations.

Doctors on the panel will, of course, also be eligible for other competitions for GMS vacancies in the course of the year. Some candidates may subsequently be offered posts as single-handed practitioners in the Scheme, resulting in a reduction in the panel for assistants and partners. Also, the number of principals actually seeking assistants or partners may exceed the projected number for the year. Both points will be borne in mind when determining the size of the panel.

- (e) Inclusion in a panel for assistants and partners does not confer any entitlement to an appointment."

On a proposal by Dr McCarthy, seconded by Dr Sheehan, it was agreed that the proposal contained in the report be approved.

46782

**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO LOCAL COMMITTEES**

The following report no. 9/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"Vacancies exist on Local Committees as shown hereunder due to resignations. I recommend that the Board appoint the persons named, each of whom has been duly nominated, to be members of the Local Committees as set out:

<b>Local Committee</b>	<b>Cause of vacancy</b>	<b>Person recommended for Appointment</b>
Dublin County	Resignation of Ms D Fitzsimons	Ms Philomena Stynes Public Health Nurse 64 Cherbury Park Road Lucan Co Dublin
Dun Laoghaire	Resignation of Mr J M Deasy	Dr Sean Connell Dental Surgeon 32 Arnold Park Glenageary Co Dublin

46/82

**APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF RIGHTS AND INTERESTS  
ENJOYED UNDER LEASE FROM  
BIOLOGICAL AND MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
TO THE INSTITUTE OF CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY**

The following report no. 10/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

The Eastern Health Board, by agreement dated 22 September 1980, agreed to lease a site of approximately 1 acre at St James's Hospital to the Biological and Medical Research Institute Ltd. As I advised the Board at our March meeting, a request has been received from that Institute for our Board's agreement to effect the transfer of the rights and interests enjoyed under the agreement to the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology Ltd. We have been advised that BMRI Ltd has entered into an agreement to assign to ICP Ltd its tenancy interest in an existing premises on the Garden Hill site at St James's Hospital, and also its interest in the agreement between our Board and BMRI Ltd dated 22 September 1980 which, as stated above, provides for the lease of a new site of approximately 1 acre in exchange for the Garden Hill site, and for the payment of compensation in respect of the pre-fab buildings at present erected on the Garden Hill site.

2. **The Biological and Medical Research Institute Ltd incorporated a range of services at the Garden Hill site. Its complex there embodies the Endocrine Pharmacology Unit of the Department of Pharmacology UCD, and the Psycho-endocrine Unit of the Department of Psychiatry, UCD. Three approved clinics are held there each week for eligible Eastern Health Board patients referred by consultants, and presenting psycho-endocrine and related health problems, including sleep disorders. One of the weekly sessions is devoted to patients referred from the Psychiatric Service. The Unit at Garden Hill has been approved by Comhairle na nOspideal for out-patient services.**

**In addition, the following services are available there:-**

- i services in collaborative support capacity to other hospitals and institutions;**
- ii services to health research work at home and overseas;**
- iii services to education at third level;**
- iv services to drug evaluation programmes.**

3. **Clause 8 of the Agreement dated 22 September 1980 between our Board and BMRI Ltd is as follows:**

**'The Institute shall not assign, sub-let or part with possession of the premises (including the buildings erected thereon) or any part thereof save to an accredited successor in title to the Institute and with the consent of the Health Board.'**

**We have consulted with our Board's legal advisors and with the St James's Hospital Board regarding the request from BMRI Ltd to transfer its interest to the ICP Ltd. Copies of replies received are attached herewith.**

4. **Having regard to the terms of Clause 8 of the existing agreement dated 22 September 1980 and to the terms of the replies received from the St James's Hospital Board and from our Board's legal advisors I am not aware of any reason why our Board's consent to the proposed transfer could be withheld, subject to the satisfactory resolution of the points raised in the legal advisor's letter."**

" St James's Hospital  
P O Box 580  
Dublin 8  
31 March 1982

Mr P B Segrave Chief  
Executive Officer Eastern  
Health Board 1 James's  
Street Dublin 8

Dear Mr Segrave,

I refer to your letter of 10 March regarding the proposal which will be before your Board in regard to the transfer of rights and interests enjoyed by the Biological and Medical Research Institute Ltd under the agreement of September 1980 to the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology.

Your letter was placed before and considered by the Hospital Board at its meeting on 26 March and it was agreed that, in the interests of the future planning and development of the St James's Hospital complex, the Hospital Board would raise no objection to the proposed transfer.

In this particular connection, the Hospital Board specifically asked that its concern should be expressed in regard to the title now used by the Institute as it was felt that such a title could cause confusion in the public mind as to the Institute's activities and the clinical activities provided at St James's Hospital.

Yours sincerely

L. Hogan  
Hospital Administrator"

Roger Green & Sons  
Solicitors  
11 Wellington Quay  
Dublin 2  
1 April 1982

Mr K Hickey Programme  
Manager General Hospital  
Care Eastern Health Board  
1 James's Street Dublin 8.

Re - BMRI - with - Institute of Clinical Pharmacology

Dear Mr Hickey,

We refer to yours of the 1 inst in connection with this matter and our telephone conversation, when we advised you that there was no legal reason why the Board could not take a decision in principle to consent to the Assignment by the Biological and Medical Research Institute Limited of its rights under the Agreement dated the 22 day of September 1980 to the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology Limited.

If a decision is taken in principle to agree to the Assignment above mentioned, then the following points would have to be clarified before a document effecting the transaction was finalised:-

1. Who are the controlling shareholders of the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology Limited?
2. Why did Dr Austin Darragh not acquire the shares in the Biological and Medical Research Institute Limited from the Multinational Hoffman-Rosch?
3. What consideration is the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology Limited paying to the Biological and Medical Research Institute Limited for its rights under the Agreement dated the 22 day of September 1980?
4. It is obviously in the interest of the Biological and Medical Research Institute Limited to assign its rights under the Agreement dated the 22 of September 1980 to the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology Limited. When the terms of the September 1980 Agreement were being negotiated, BMRI were in a strong position vis-a-vis the fixing of the terms of the agreement as they were facilitating St James's Hospital Board in the planning of the new hospital there. Delay on that project then would have cost a lot of money. In view of these circumstances it might be possible to amend certain provisions of the September 1980 Agreement when finalising the terms upon which the consent to the Assignment would be forthcoming.

Subject to the foregoing reservations we can see no objections in principle the Board taking a decision to the consent to the Assignment by BMRI of its rights under the September 1980 Agreement

Yours faithfully.

Roger Greene & Sons"



Following a discussion to which Drs Harrington, Behan and Powell contributed, the Board consented to the proposed transfer from the Biological and Medical Research Institute Ltd to the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology Ltd of their interest in the agreement with the Board dated 22 September 1980. The consent was made conditional on the satisfactory resolution of the points raised by the Board's legal advisors and the point raised by the St James's Hospital Board regarding the confusion which could be caused in the public mind by the title of the Institute.

**47/1982**

**AMBULANCE SERVICE, DUN LAOGHAIRE**

It was agreed that consideration of this item should be postponed until the May meeting of the Board.

**48/1982**

**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO THE JOINT  
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND  
HYGIENE**

The Chief Executive Officer read letter dated 19 March 1982 from Dr John Walker resigning his membership of the Joint Committee on Environmental Health and Hygiene.

It was unanimously agreed that the nomination of a member to replace Dr Walker should be postponed until the May meeting of the Board.

**49/1982**

**PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES**

The report of the following local committee, having been circulated, was dealt with as follows:

- (i) Kildare Local Committee meeting held on 11 March 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Dr Powell, the report was noted.

50/1982

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Freehill

"That all aids prescribed by doctors, nurses and therapists for clients be supplied free of charge and not subjected to a means test in line with the Long Term Illness Scheme under the 1970 Health Act."

The motion was seconded by Cllr Hand and, following a discussion to which Cllrs Freehill and Hand, Dr Harrington and Dr Powell contributed, and to which the Chief Executive Officer and Mr Donohue, Programme Manager, Community Care replied, it was agreed that the motion should not be put until the members were advised of the outcome of the meeting which had been arranged with the Minister for Health for 2 April 1982.

It was also agreed that consideration of motions in the names of Cllr Mrs Glenn, Cllr Hand and Cllr Reilly should be deferred.

51/1982

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter dated 23 March 1982 Ref GHP 201 /4/4 from the Department of Health regarding a proposal to make adjustments to the Tallaght Hospital Board (Establishment) Order, including making provision for the representatives of the National Children's Hospital, was circulated.

The following motion was proposed by Dr Behan, seconded by Cllr Carroll, and agreed unanimously

- "(i) That Mr K Hickey, Programme Manager, General Hospital Care, be nominated to the Tallaght Hospital Planning Board and
- (ii) that the Board avail of this opportunity to remind the Minister of the understanding arrived at in previous discussions on this subject that the Eastern Health Board would have a 50% interest in the Management Board of Tallaght General Hospital as representatives of the public interest on the model of St James's Hospital."

The meeting concluded at 9.15 pm.

**CORRECT: P B Segrave**  
Chief Executive Officer

**CHAIRMAN**

**EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in  
St Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum, Co Wicklow  
on Thursday, 6 May 1982 at 6.00 pm

**PRESENT**

Dr J D Behan  
Cllr L Belton  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr D Browne  
Cllr M Carroll  
Cllr B J Durkan  
Cllr Mrs A Glenn  
Cllr A Groome  
Cllr T Hand  
Dr K Harrington  
Cllr P Hickey

Cllr F Hynes  
Dr P McCarthy  
Mr M Matthews  
Dr A Meade  
Cllr H Reilly  
Dr B Sheehan  
Cllr E Stagg  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr G Timmins T D  
Dr J Walker

**APOLOGIES**

Cllr E Doyle  
Prof J S Doyle  
Cllr M Freehill

Prof J McCormick Cllr  
W C Willoughby

**IN THE CHAIR**

For Minutes: 52/1982 to 60/1982: Cllr D Browne  
Thereafter Cllr Mrs A Glenn

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr P B Segrave  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr T Keyes  
Mr K Hickey  
Mr J F Reynolds  
Mr L Kavanagh  
Prof B O'Donnell  
Mr FJ McCullough  
Mr PJ Swords  
Mr J Doyle  
Prof I Browne  
Miss A Flanagan  
Mr C Mansfield

Mr A O'Brien  
Mr K Ward  
Mr T Brady  
Mr M O'Connor  
Mr E Dunphy  
Mr C McQuain  
Mr O'Donovan  
Miss M McGahern  
Mr M Cummins  
Miss E Larkin  
Miss R Carolan  
Mr J Larkin  
Mr P Byrne

52/1982

**CONDOLENCES**

The Chairman informed the members of the recent deaths of the brother of Cllr M Carroll and of the father of Miss E Duffy, Superintendent Public Health Nurse. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect.

53/1982

The Chairman informed the members that the June meeting of the Board would be held in St Vincent's Hospital, Athy, Co Kildare on Thursday, 3 June, 1982 at 6 pm.

54/1982

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 1 April 1982, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes.

55/1982

**QUESTIONS**

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, it was agreed that the question lodged should be answered.

**Question**

(i) Cllr F Hynes

"That this Board be given the following information: From 1 January 1975 the number of properties sold to other authorities. The type of property. The area of land disposed of in each sale. The price received?"

**Reply**

Under Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946 all proposals to dispose of property are subject to the approval of the Board and the sanction of the Minister for Health.

Details of lands sold to other authorities since 1 January 1975 are set out hereunder. Sales to individuals have not been included - neither have details of lands disposed of by way of licence etc. to voluntary organisations to enable them to provide facilities for the handicapped and disabled.

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Property	Area of land sold	Sold to	Price
Reservoir site at Tonlegee	12 acres 3 roods 1 5 perches	Dublin County Council	8,800
2 houses at Maynooth Pk	1/8th of acre	Christian Brothers	16,750
Health Centre and plot at Ballsbridge	29 sq. perches	Allied Irish Banks	140,000
Lands at St Clare's Home	6.50 acres	I.I.R.S.	180,000
Land at Clonskeagh	4,659 sq. ft.	I.P.A.	10,000
Land at Kilgobbin Dispensary Residence	2 sq. perches	Dept of Posts & Telegraphs	250
Land at St Loman's	9,556 sq. mtrs	Dublin County Council	35,000
Land at St Clare's	1 6.61 acres	Dublin Corporation	Exchange for sites
Land at St Patrick's Home	1 7.5 acres	Dublin County Council	Exchange for sites

**Question:**

(ii) Cllr F Hynes

"That this Board be given the following information: The number of properties bought from Local Authorities. The type of property. The area of land involved in each sale. The price paid for each property since 1 January 1975."

**Reply**

Details of land bought from other authorities since 1 January 1975 are set out hereunder together with details of land acquired on an exchange basis:

Com.

Cont \_\_

<b>Property</b>	<b>Area of land bought</b>	<b>Bought from</b>	<b>Price</b>
Site for Health Centre, Arklow	0.77 acre	Arklow UDC	5,000
Site for Health Centre, Shillelagh	0.32 acre	Wicklow County Council	2,000
Site for WelfareHome, Arklow	0.75 acre	Arklow UDC	10,000
Site for Health Centre, Calverstown,	0.125 acre	Kildare County Council	£141 + legal costs
Site for Health Centre, Ballybrack	0.33 acre	Dun Laoghaire Borough Corp	4,400
Site for Health Centre, Millbrook, Tallaght	0.61 acre	Dublin Corporation	6,500
Site for Health Complex, Ballybrack	1.88 acre	Dun Laoghaire Borough Corp	75,200
Site for Health Centre, Clonkeen Road	0.59 acre	Dublin County Council	2,200 + legal costs
Site for Health Centre, Emmet Road	0.583	Dublin Corporation	13,250 Gross
Board's site at Vincent St. in part exchange	Net amount paid by Board	Dublin Corporation	7,160 net

**Land acquired from Dublin Corporation under arrangements for Exchange**

<b>Type of Property</b>	<b>Area of land involved</b>	
<b>Coolock site for Health Centre</b>	<b>2.32 acres</b>	<b>Being exchanged for lands disposed of to Corporation for housing. Usually land adjacent to hospital</b>
<b>Finglas - Site for Health Centre</b>	<b>0.76 acre</b>	<b>do</b>
<b>Rowlagh-Site for Health Complex</b>	<b>0.925 acre</b>	<b>do</b>
<b>Coombe - Site for Welfare Home</b>	<b>0.25 acre</b>	<b>do</b>
<b>Corduff - Site for Welfare Home and Day Centre</b>	<b>2.1 acres</b>	<b>do</b>
<b>Kilbarrack - Site for Health Centre</b>	<b>0.38 acre</b>	<b>do</b>
<b>Meilowes Road/ Kildonen Road Site for Day Centre etc</b>	<b>1.42 acre</b>	<b>do.</b>

**Question**

(iii) **Dr J D Behan**

**"To ask the Chief Executive Officer of the Eastern Health Board**

**(a) to enquire whether the Minister for Health and the medical organisations have been informed and agreed to the Department of Posts and Telegraphs' decision to drop all doctors, most hospitals and emergency medical services from the priority "A" list of telephone subscribers for 24 hour emergency repair and to place them on priority "B" listing for repair during next normal office hours?**

**(b) to enquire what is the reason for such a dangerous and socially irresponsible action on the part of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs which can endanger lives? and**

**(c) to enquire whether the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs was aware of and approved any such order?"**

**Reply**

**"Copies of the question were sent to the Departments of Health and Posts and Telegraphs and we have attached the replies received."**

"Department of Health

5 May 1982

I am directed by the Minister for Health to refer to your letter of 27th April 1982 concerning the emergency telephone repair service.

I enclose copy of the report from the Department of Posts and Telegraphs on this matter, together with a copy of the reply by the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs on a recent Parliamentary Question concerning the 24 hour telephone repair service."

"Department of Posts and Telegraphs

5 May 1982

Please refer to your minute of 28 Aibreán about representations from the Eastern Health Board on the emergency telephone repair service. I enclose for information a copy of the Minister's reply to a Dail Question on this subject last week. It set out the general background to the introduction of the revised arrangements, the nature of the changes made and the way in which the new arrangements are intended to operate.

As the Minister indicated in the Dail last week, the revised arrangements were introduced on an experimental basis with a view to ensuring that the Department's overtime allocation for 1982, which is over one-third less than the amount spent in 1981, is not exceeded. The position up to now has been that the telephones of many thousands of subscribers, including doctors, were given attention on a 24-hour, seven-day week basis. This involved calling out staff at substantial cost. In quite a number of cases, it is not possible for the staff called out to repair the fault and it has to await attention by specialist staff during normal working hours. Having regard to the need for economies, the high cost involved and altered needs since the present arrangements were introduced many years ago, it was concluded that this expenditure could not be justified for all the categories involved and that users of the telephone service generally should not have to bear unnecessary cost in giving attention outside normal working hours to telephone users where this is not clearly justified in the public interest.

Emergency services and hospitals on accident call included in the revised arrangements as were the Drug Advisory and Poisons Information services at Jervis Street. As pointed out in the Minister's reply the new arrangements will be operated flexibly and humanely where matters of life and death or other clearly humanitarian ground are concerned. Priority will continue to be given to repair of doctors' lines within normal hours.

It is the Department's intention that the new arrangements will be monitored on a continuing basis and changes made if experience suggests this to be necessary. The first such review has been completed and it has been decided that the main lines of all hospitals (including maternity hospitals) should continue to receive attention outside normal hours.

Any views the Eastern Health Board may have on the matter will, of course, be considered carefully and sympathetically."



**Question:**

To ask the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs if he has authorised changes in the 24 hour telephone repair service and if so when did he do so, the different categories and the persons involved in the new changes he has made, if medical doctors are now being regarded in lower priority for these repair services than heretofore.

**Answer**

As announced by the previous Government, the financial allocation for overtime in the Post Office Estimate in the current year has been greatly reduced - from an expenditure of over £34 million last year at the pay rates in force throughout 1981 to £23.7 million in the current year at the increased rates of pay applicable throughout 1982. To keep within the reduced provision, the volume of overtime worked throughout the Department has been scaled down drastically. Despite this other measures have to be taken to keep within the approved allocation.

One of these measures is to curtail, on an experimental basis, with effect from 19 April the number of subscribers in the Dublin area whose telephones are repaired after normal working hours. The cost of calling out staff to attend to an individual fault can be as much as £50 and in quite a number of cases where staff are called out it is not possible to repair the fault until more staff become available during normal working hours. The intention is that the new arrangements should be operated in a flexible way and with discretion to go outside the limits of the revised arrangements if individual circumstances warrant it. The effects of the restrictions will be monitored on a continuing basis and changes made if these are considered essential.

All categories whose telephones were formerly repaired outside normal working hours will, of course, continue to get priority attention during normal hours.

In the experimental arrangements introduced, staff are not being called out to repair doctors' telephones, but doctors' telephones will continue to get priority attention within normal working hours. The position is being monitored continuously and if it is found essential to give attention to some doctors' telephones outside normal working hours, that will be done. In the meantime, the aim is that the new arrangements should be worked flexibly and with discretion to vary them in individual cases where the circumstances warrant that."

**Question**

(iv) Dr J D Behan

"To ask the Chief Executive Officer to obtain from the Department of Health a statement of the amount raised by the National Sweepstakes in each year since the health boards were established indicating its distribution and utilisation with full particulars of the amount expended on the health services in each year, the individual projects upon which it was spent, the amount spent upon each project, the name of the controlling authority in each case, whether this money was included as part of the Department of Health's capital allocation in each of these years, how it was accounted for by the Department and project authorities and where these accounts may be seen and inspected."

**Reply**

"The information requested has been sought from the Department of Health and will be made available to the Board when it comes to hand."

**Question**

(v) Dr J D Behan

"To ask the Chief Executive Officer to obtain from the Department of Health a comprehensive and detailed list of all applications to the Department for assistance with capital projects in each of the years since the health boards were established, giving, in respect of each such year,

(a) a list of all applications granted, stating the applying and controlling authority and the amount sought for each project, the reason for granting the application, the initial and final allocation to each project in each year and also giving

(b) a list of all applications refused or deferred and not yet sanctioned, indicating the applying authority in each case, the nature and purpose of the project, the amount sought and the grounds upon which refusal or deferral was made and also asking the Department

(c) to state whether and where such lists of applications (whether successful or unsuccessful) are published and available for inspection and if not, why not?"

**Reply**

"The information requested has been sought from the Department of Health and will be made available to the Board when it comes to hand."

56/1982

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Chief Executive Officer read the following report, which was agreed by the Board:-

(i) Report of Working Group on the Organisation of general hospital services in the south-east Dublin and east Wicklow area

"I wish to draw the Board's attention to the public announcement made by the Minister for Health on 30 April 1982 to the effect that he accepts the report of the Working Group, in principle, as forming a reasonable approach to the future development of general hospital services in the south-east Dublin and east Wicklow area.

Immediate arrangements are being made to continue the discussions between the Board and the other parties concerned to work out details of the agreements that will now be necessary for the implementation of the arrangements proposed in the Report and I will be reporting further to the Board in this regard as soon as possible."

(ii) "At its meeting held on 5 May 1977 the Board approved in principle, of an application from the Eastern Health Board Staffs Sports Club for a site at St. Brendan's Hospital on which it was proposed to build a sports complex.

Following detailed discussions with representatives of the Club, agreement has been reached on boundaries, conditions, etc. It is proposed to lease to the Club a plot of land of 1.95 acres at the rear of 226-230 North Circular Road with a road frontage on Upper Grangegorman.

If the Board agrees a report in accordance with Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946 will be circulated for consideration at the June meeting."

- (iii) "At its meeting held on 1 May 1975 the Board approved, in principle, of the sale of the residence and attached land at Ballinacor West (Dunganstown) County Wicklow to the District Medical Officer, Dr C P Bermingham. The Commissioner for Valuation confirmed the value of the property at £13,000. It is proposed to sell the residence and one acre attached to Dr C P Bermingham.

If the Board agrees a report in accordance with Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946 will be circulated for consideration at the June meeting."

- (iv) Naas General Hospital

"I am pleased to advise the Board that the following consultant posts have now been approved by Comhairle na nOspideal.

Posts	Existing Position	No. of posts approved
General Surgeon	1 temporary	2
General Physician	1 temporary	2
Geriatric Physician	Nil	1
Anaesthetist	1 temporary	2
Radiologist	1 sessional	1

Approval is also expected shortly to our application for posts of general pathologist for the hospital.

I now propose to take immediate steps to have the existing temporary and sessional posts advertised for permanent appointment through the Local Appointments Commission.

The filling of the other posts will take place in due course in the light of overall development of the hospital and the funds which are made available to the Board by the Minister for Health.

With the approval of the Board we have been continuing detailed discussions with officers of the Department of Health regarding the general development of the hospital."

- (v) Disposal of Kilbarrack Temporary Health Centre

"The Board has been asked by the Principal of Greendale Community School in Kilbarrack to pass on the use of our temporary, pre-fabricated health centre to the school after our services move to the new permanent health centre later this year.

The temporary health centre in Kilbarrack was sited nearly ten years ago on land owned by the school authorities and no rent was ever sought. The school has been, and continues to be, most co-operative

With the Board's local community care team. Members may remember the school being made available on the occasion of the turning of the first sod at the new health centre site in May of last year.

The temporary building is of such construction that to move it would involve damage and heavy expense.

In all circumstances, I propose to pass over the use of the prefab to the school when our new health centre is ready."

57/1982

**PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEES**

The Reports off the ffollowing Visiting Committees, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows

- (i) No. 3 Visiting Committee meetings held at St Ita's Hospital on 23 March 1982 and 20 April 1982.

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Groome, the reports were noted.

- (ii) No 4 Visiting Committee meeting held at St Loman's Hospital on 24 March 1982

On a proposal by Dr Harrington, seconded by Mrs Bonar, the report was noted.

- (iii) No. 2 Visiting Committee meeting held at St Brendan's Hospital on 6 April 1982.

It was agreed to defer consideration of this report until the June meeting of the Board.

- (iv) Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held in Area 6 (St Brendan's Hospital) on 7 April 1982.

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Mrs Bonar, the report was noted.

Following a discussion on the storage in health centres of drugs for psychiatric patients, to which Mrs Bonar, Cllrs Stagg and Groome, Drs Meade, Walker and McCarthy contributed, and to which Mr Keyes replied, it was agreed that a report on this matter should be submitted to the Board at its next meeting.

- (v) No. 1 Visiting Committee meeting held at St Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum, on 15 April 1982.

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the report was noted.

- (vi) No. 1 Visiting Committee meeting held at District Hospital, Baltinglass on 21 April 1982.

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Timmins. the report was noted.

58/1982

**AMBULANCE SERVICE DUN LAOGHAIRE**

It was agreed, on a show of hands, that consideration of this matter should be deferred to the June meeting of the Board.

59/1982

**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO JOINT COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND HYGIENE**

It was unanimously agreed that Cllr M Carroll should be appointed as a member of the Joint Committee on Environmental Health and Hygiene to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Dr John Walker.

60/1982

**ALLOCATION FOR NON-CAPITAL HEALTH SERVICES EXPENDITURE 1982**

The following Report No. 12/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"I have advised the Board of the serious situation relating to the level of allocation for non-capital health expenditure.

The situation obtaining at our last meeting was:

The Board's estimate of maintaining	
Existing services at current level	£ 120.40m
Department's allocation	£ 112.91 m
Shortfall	£7.49m

The Department of Health had indicated that they would take steps which would effect savings of £3.99m thus reducing the shortfall of £7.49m to a residual shortfall of £3.5m.

In the face of a cutback of this magnitude, with all its serious implications for the quality of our services, our Board decided to seek a meeting with the Minister and to defer consideration of our estimates of expenditure until after that meeting.

Other health boards had also made approaches to the Minister. He agreed to meet all chairmen and chief executive officers on 2 April 1982. Councillor P Hickey and I represented the Eastern Health Board.

As a result of the meeting with the Minister and officers from the Department the following emerged:

(a) the Department accepts responsibility for savings totalling	£ 3.9m
(b) the Board has had its allocation for direct expenditure increased by	£ 1.82m

The result of this is that we are now faced with the task of effecting economies of £1.68m in the current year. While this sum represents about 1.5% of our estimated requirements, nevertheless it is a substantial sum in real terms.

The task of effecting economies was not made any easier by the uncertainties which surround our financial situation in the first three months of this year. Now, with almost half of the financial year gone, we shall have to monitor very carefully each and every item of expenditure in order to avoid a breakdown in services later in the year.

It will be necessary to keep our additional pay costs to an absolute minimum. The employment of substitutes and locums, overtime, on-call and week-end premiums must be kept to a minimum, consistent with maintaining a proper level of patient-care.

In other areas we must ensure that our Board is obtaining value for money. Our resources must be used to their best advantage to ensure that the quality of service - particularly to those most in need - is maintained, while at the same time ensuring that there is no duplication of services and facilities.

We must also try to continue the special effort to improve our Board's properties. This effort must be sustained over a considerable period of time, and we must resist the temptation of making false economies by deferring the necessary works which must be done each year.

Our difficulties are heightened by the fact that the population of our area is continually increasing, and more and more demands are being made on our services each year.

In the face of all these problems we need the co-operation and commitment of our staff, the full support of our Board and the understanding of the public. I am satisfied that the staff will fully co-operate with us in our efforts, and that the public will understand that the steps we are now taking are aimed at ensuring that such radical measures as ward closures and the disemployment of permanent staff are avoided, and that special schemes such as the dental and ophthalmic scheme can continue.

The attached budget shows the detailed estimates of expenditure, based on the revised allocation of £114.73m for direct expenditure and £19.5 m for the General Medical Services (Payments) Board.

The estimates are based on the assumption that the savings of £3.99m proposed by the Department are realised, and indeed, that we shall be able to contain our own costs in the face of rising trends and prices.

During the coming months the trends in our expenditure and income will be closely monitored. If it appears that, because of an undue rise in expenditure levels, further corrective action is required, I shall report to the Board.

I am attaching to this report some charts which summarise the budget figures."

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Hickey, Hynes, Reilly, Mrs Glenn, Stagg, Dr Harrington, Dr Behan and the Chairman contributed, the following motion was proposed by Dr Harrington and seconded by Cllr Hand.

"It is resolved that the allocation for non-capital health expenditure 1982 in the sum off £134.130m be adopted and apportioned as set out in the Book of Estimates prepared by the Chief Executive Officer and that the Minister be informed accordingly."

The motion was carried, the voting being 14 for, 6 against as follows:

**FOR**

Cllr Befton, Mrs Bonar, Cllr Browne, Cllr Mrs Glenn, Cllr Hand, Dr Harrington, Cllr Hickey, Dr McCarthy, Mr Matthews, Dr Meade, Cllr Reilly, Cllr Sweeney, Cllr Timmins, Dr Walker.

**AGAINST**

Dr Behan, Cllr Carroll, Cllr Durkan, Cllr Groome, Cllr Hynes, Cllr Stagg.

61/1982

**REPORT OF PROJECT TEAM, ST BRENDAN'S HOSPITAL**

At the request of the Chairman the Chief Executive Officer introduced the Report of the Project Team, St. Brendan's Hospital, which had been circulated to members.

Dr Behan proposed, and it was agreed, that the Chief Executive Officer, who acted as Chairman of the Project Team and Mr F J McCullough, who acted as Secretary to the Project Team, should be congratulated on the content and presentation of the Report.

Following a lengthy discussion to which Dr Behan, Cllr Reilly, Mr Matthews, Dr McCarthy, Professor Browne, Cllr Hand, Dr Meade, Cllr Durkan, Dr Walker and the Chairman contributed, the following motion was proposed by Dr Behan, seconded by Cllr Mrs Glenn and carried on a show of hands:

"That the Report of the Project Team, St. Brendan's Hospital, be adopted and that the Psychiatric Services Committee urgently re convene to complete its report with the recommendations of the Project Team and the overall requirements of the Psychiatric Service placed in a priority order rating."

At this stage Cllr Mrs A Glenn took the Chair.

62/1982

**DISPOSAL OF LAND AT ST COLMAN'S HOSPITAL**

The following Report No 13/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"The Board was advised at its meeting on 4 June 1981 (Minute 84/1981) refers) of a proposal from the St Colman's Patients' Fund Committee to provide sheltered housing for elderly persons on a site close to the existing Hospital buildings. The Board welcomed and noted the Report.

By letter dated 10 March 1982, the Committee advised the Board that they were ready to embark on the construction of a scheme involving the provision of twelve sheltered housing units, that a trust had been established to manage the project and that it was hoped to commence work on the project shortly. The members of the trust are as follows:

Mr Liam Kelly, Chairman  
 Mrs Susan Phillips, Secretary  
 Mrs May Kavanagh  
 Mr Michael O'Dea  
 Sister Philomena  
 Mr Brendan Joyce

Mr Sheamus O'Brien  
 Mr Dominic Ryan  
 Dr James Leitch  
 Mr Patrick Donovan  
 Mr Mark Collier

Subject to the consent of the Board and the sanction of the Minister for Health, it is proposed to make a site of approximately half an acre available close to the existing hospital buildings under licence and free of charge and not pursuant to any lease or contract of tenancy. There will be provision in the licence that, in the event of the licence being terminated, the Board will acquire the buildings.

A map showing the site for the proposed sheltered housing is attached.

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

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

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

On a proposal by Dr Walker, seconded by Dr McCarthy, it was agreed that the proposals outlined in the report be adopted.

63/1982

#### STAFFING COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAMME

The following Report No. 14/1962 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"I have received a recommendation from the Programme Manager, Community Care, that six additional posts of Community Welfare Officer be created to meet the increasing demand on the Supplementary Welfare Allowance Services. This demand is particularly noticeable in the new housing areas and districts of high unemployment.

The Programme Manager's recommendation follows investigations carried out by him and I concur with the recommendation and request the Board's approval to the creation of the six additional posts."

On a proposal by Dr McCarthy, seconded by Dr Waluam, the Board consented to the proposal contained in the Report.



64/1932

## PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES

Tim laportv of Aa folowing local committsak, hawatgj baan tirculatBd, wnv daalt with as follow:

- (i) Dublin City Local Committee meeting held on 8 March, 1982  
On a proposal by Cllr Reilly, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, the report was noted.
- (ii) Oun Laoghaire Local Committee meeting held on 9 March 1982  
On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, the report was noted.
- (iii) Dublin County Local Committee meeting held on 11 March 1982  
On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Reilly, the report was noted.
- (iv) Wicklow Local Committee meeting held on 19 March 1982  
On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the report was noted.

Following a discussion on the provision of incontinence sheets in private nursing homes, to which Cllr Timmins and Mrs Bonar contributed, it was agreed that Mr Donohue, Programme Manager, Community Care, should submit a report on this matter to the next meeting of the Board.

65/1982

## NOTICES OF MOTION

- (i) The following was proposed by Cllr Mrs Glenn, seconded by Mrs Bonar, and agreed:  
"To propose that a report be given to the Board on the recent decision to reduce the weekly supplement of £5.25 to £1.30 for patients in private hospital care."
- (ii) The following motion was proposed by Cllr Reilly and seconded by Cllr Durkan:  
"That this Board make available to Walkinstown Association for Handicapped People an extra sum of money by way of grant towards the running of the Centre as they have to employ daily help to ensure that it is run properly."  
Following a discussion to which Cllr Reilly, Cllr Durkan, and Dr Walker contributed, it was agreed that Mr Keyes, Programme Manager, Special Hospital Care, should continue his examination of the proposal.
- (iii) The following motion was proposed by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Reilly and agreed.  
"In future when disposing of property, the Board should endeavour to obtain the full market value for this property."

- (iv) The following motion was proposed by Dr Behan, seconded by Cllr Reilly, and agreed.

"That the Health Board

(a) express to the Taoiseach, through the Minister for Health, its alarm and grave concern at the arbitrary and unilateral removal, without consultation or prior warning, by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs of all doctors and most hospitals and emergency medical services, including the Disaster Plan, Ambulance Centres, maternity hospitals and hospitals for the elderly, mentally ill and handicapped from the priority 'A' 24-hour emergency telephone repair service;

(b) call on the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs to restore all such subscribers to priority 'A' forthwith, and that this Health Board

(c) calls on the Taoiseach, through the Ministers for Health and Posts and Telegraphs, to convene an urgent public enquiry into the reasons for such a dangerous and socially irresponsible action of life-threatening proportions."

- (v) The following motion was proposed by Mrs Bonar, seconded by Dr Harrington, and agreed.

"That this Board adopts the report submitted by Mrs Bonar as an addendum to the Committee's report on Support Systems for Unwanted Pregnancies."

66/1982

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- (i) Letter dated 7 April 1982 from the Department of Health regarding membership of Comhairle na nOspideal, which sought from interested bodies lists of persons willing to act on the Comhairle, was noted. It was agreed that the names of Mr P B Segrave, Chief Executive Officer and Dr A Meade should be forwarded to the Department of Health.
- (ii) Letter dated 23 April 1982 from the Department of Health regarding information requested by Dr Behan in respect of capital allocation on health since the health boards were established, was circulated. Dr Behan requested that this letter be re-circulated for discussion at the June meeting of the Board.
- (iii) Letter dated 30 April 1982 from the Department of Health stating that the Minister accepted the Report of the Working Group on the Organisation of General Hospital Services in the south-east Dublin and east Wicklow area in principle as forming a reasonable approach to the future development of general hospital services in the south-east Dublin and east Wicklow area was noted.

The meeting concluded at 9.30 pm.

**CORRECT: P B Segrave**  
Chief Executive Officer



**CHAIRMAN**

## **EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

**Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in  
St Vincent's Hospital, Athy, Co Kildare  
on Thursday, 3 June 1982 at 6.00 pm**

### **PRESENT**

**DrJD Behan  
Cllr L Belton  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr D Browne  
Cllr M Carroll  
Cllr E Doyle  
Cllr B J Durkan  
Cllr Mrs A Glenn  
Cllr A Groome  
Cllr T Hand  
Cllr P Hickey  
Cllr F Hynes**

**Ms N Kearney  
Dr P McCarthy  
Mr M Matthews  
Dr A Meade  
Dr B Powell  
Cllr H Reilly  
Dr B Sheenan  
Cllr E Stagg  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr G Timmins T D  
Dr J Walker**

### **APOLOGIES**

**Ald B Ahem  
Prof J S Doyle  
Dr K Harrington**

**Prof J McCormick  
Sr Columba McNamara  
Cllr W C WHloughby**

### **IN THE CHAIR**

**Cllr D Browne**

### **OFFICERS IN A TTENDANCE**

**Mr P B Segrave  
Mr K Hickey  
Mr T Keyes  
Mr J F Reynolds  
Mr L Kavanagh  
Prof B O'Donnell  
Mr J Doyle  
Mr F J McCullough  
Mr P J Swords  
Miss A Flanagan  
Mr C Mansfield  
Mr A O'Brien**

**Mr M O'Connor  
Mr K Ward  
Mr T Brady  
Mr E Dunphy  
Mr J Leech  
Mr S O'Brien  
Mr M Cummins  
Dr L F Murphy  
Sr Canice  
Miss S Keegan  
Miss B Kelly  
Miss M Curtis**

67/82

**CONDOLENCES**

The Chairman informed the members of the recent deaths of the father of Joseph Cahill, Section Officer, Technical Services Department and of the mother of Michael Hanratty, Senior Executive Officer, Community Welfare Services. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect.

68/82

**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

- (i) The Chairman informed the members that he was be arranging another meeting of the Committee of the Whole House which had been established to examine Children in Care and the services being provided for them.
- (ii) The Chairman informed the members that the 12th Annual Meeting of the Board would be held on Thursday, 1 July 1982, in St Brendan's Hospital at 6.00 pm and that the Annual Meeting would be followed by the monthly meeting at 6.30 pm.
- (iii) The Chairman, on behalf of the members and officials, thanked the Matron and staff for the excellent meal which had been provided for them.

69/82

**Confirmation OF MINUTES**

Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the monthly meeting held on 6 May 1982, having been circulated, confirmed the minutes of on a proposal.

70/82

**QUESTIONS**

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Dr McCarthy, it was agreed that the questions lodged should be answered.

**Question**

- (i) Dr J Behan

"To ask the Chief Executive Officer to obtain from the Minister for Health a statement as to the process whereby projects are selected by the Minister and his Department for inclusion in the annual capital allocation for the health services; whether projects funded from the capital allocation are named, with details of projected costs, in the estimates and vote for the health services presented to Dail Eireann; whether monies were spent in 1981 upon projects not named in the estimate and vote for the health services, upon what projects and whether it is intended to spend monies again in 1982 upon projects which have not been named and costed in the 1982 health services estimate and vote in Dail Eireann?"

**Reply**

"The information requested has been sought from the Department of Health and will be made available when it comes to hand."

**Question**

(ii) **Dr J Behan**

"To ask the Chief Executive Officer to obtain from the Minister for Health the full list of capital projects to be funded by the 1982 capital allocation of £49.5 million for the health services with a statement as to whether each project was named, with projected costs, in the estimates and vote for health in Oail Eireann and showing, in a breakdown by health board area, the amount allocated to each project, the purpose of the project and the policy reason for undertaking it, the name of the applying and controlling authority with an indication in each case as to whether it came under the direct functional control of the health boards or not?"

**Reply**

"The information requested has been sought from the Department of Health and will be made available when it comes to hand."

**Question**

**Or J Behan**

(iii) "To ask the Chief Executive Officer to obtain from the Department of Health a statement of the capital allocation for health in 1981, both original and final, together with a list of all projects funded from the capital allocation for health in 1981 showing, in a breakdown by health board areas, the original and final amount allocated to each project, the purpose of the project and the policy reason for undertaking it, the name of the applying and controlling authority stating, in each case, whether it came under the direct functional control of the Health Board or not and whether, for each project, it was named with cost projections in the estimates and vote for health in Dail Eireann in 1981?"

**Reply**

"The information requested has been sought from the Department of Health and will be made available when it comes to hand."

71/82

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Chief Executive Officer read the following report, which was agreed by the Board:-

(i) **Subvention rates for small psychiatric hospitals**

"As a result of a discussion at the May meeting of our Board on a motion from Cllr Mrs A Glenn, members requested that they be given a report on the position arising from a decision by the Minister to reduce the amount of daily capitation rates for small psychiatric hospitals. A report on this together with copy of a recent letter from the Minister dated 20 May 1982 has been circulated."

#### **Accident and Emergency rota scheme in Dublin hospitals**

"A scheme involving the designation of hospitals to be on call for reception of accident and emergency cases for each 24 hour period, involving the major general hospitals on both the north side and south side respectively, has been organised and administered directly by the Department of Health for a number of years.

It has now been agreed with the Department that since the Eastern Health Board is the body statutorily responsible for the provision of hospital services, the organisation and administration of the Accident and Emergency Rota Scheme should be transferred to the Board. I expect that the new arrangement will come into effect from 1 July."

#### **Storage of Drugs in Health Centres**

"At the May meeting o' the Board it was agreed that a report on the storage of drugs for psychiatric patients in health centres would be prepared for the Board following the Board's discussion on the matter.

Therefore, a detailed examination was undertaken to establish the extent to which drugs for psychiatric patients are stored in health centres and the reasons for this. This examination identified some problems for the provision of adequate patient care which would arise from the removal of all such drugs from all health centres and these are being considered by the Chief Psychiatrist and Clinical Directors who have a direct responsibility for the patients concerned. When this has been completed a detailed report will be submitted to the Board."

#### **Report of Working Group on the Organisation of General Hospital Services for South East Dublin and East Wicklow areas**

"I advised the Board at our May meeting that, following the announcement by the Minister for Health on 30 April 1982 of his acceptance, in principle, of the report of the Working Group, as forming a reasonable approach to the future development of general hospital services in the south-east Dublin and east Wicklow area, immediate arrangements were being made to progress the discussions between the Board and other parties concerned to work out details of the agreements necessary to implement the recommendations made by the Working Group.

Substantial progress has since been made in discussions, particularly between representatives of the Board and St Vincent's Hospital, Elm Park, and as soon as the discussions between the various parties have concluded I shall be preparing a comprehensive report to our Board for consideration. No binding agreements or arrangements will be made until this has been done.

However, a situation has arisen in relation to a vacancy for a post of General Surgeon at St Vincent's Hospital which requires to be publicly advertised with some degree of urgency. Surgery is one of the specialties where the recommendations of the Working Group envisage joint appointments being made between St Vincent's Hospital and St Columcille's Hospital<sup>1</sup> Loughlinstown. on the basis that consultants appointed would have a major commitment to St Columcille's and a minor commitment to St Vincent's and vice-versa.

In relation to the vacancy for a general surgeon at St Vincent's Hospital, which now requires to be urgently advertised, Comhairle na nOspideal has pointed out and indicated approval to the desirability of the opportunity of this vacancy being taken to have a joint appointment made between the two hospitals, with, in the case of this particular post only, a major commitment to St Vincent's and a minor commitment to St Columcille's. It must be emphasised that any such appointment would have to be included as part of an overall agreement for joint appointments of consultants in various specialties and that such agreement would have to embrace appointments with major commitment to St Columcille's and minor commitment to St Vincent's. It would also have to cover proposed administrative arrangements for St Columcille's Hospital

If the vacant post of general surgeon at St Vincent's Hospital were to be advertised now as a joint post between St Vincent's and St Columcille's Hospitals, the time necessary for the selection and appointment process to take place would mean that the successful candidate would not be finally appointed until the end of this year. For this reason, and subject to an overall agreement being reached in relation to joint appointments in all appropriate medical specialties and covering arrangements for the provision of specialised services at St Columcille's Hospital, which would be subject to ratification by our Board and by the authorities of St Vincent's Hospital, it seems desirable that our Board should provisionally join with St Vincent's Hospital at this stage in the advertisement of their vacant post of General Surgeon as a joint appointment. I should state that it there is no overall agreement on joint appointments and administrative arrangements subsequently reached and ratified by our Board and the authorities of St Vincent's then the post of General Surgeon which now requires to be urgently advertised would not be a joint appointment but would be made solely by St Vincent's Hospital.

- (v) Supply of incontinence sheets to patients in private nursing homes

"At the May meeting our Board it was agreed that the Programme Manager Community Care should submit a report on the provision of incontinence sheets for patients in private nursing homes to the next meeting of the Board. A report on the subject has been circulated to the members."

72/82

#### PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEES

The reports off the ffollowing Visiting Committees, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:-

- (i) No. 2 Visiting Committee meeting held at St Brendan's Hospital on 6 April 1982.

The Chairman informed the members that a further meeting of the No. 2 Visiting Committee had been held at St Brendan's Hospital on 25 May 1982 and, on his suggestion, it was agreed to defer consideration of the report until the July meeting of the Board.

- (ii) No. 2 Visiting Committee meeting held at St Patrick's Home on 27 April 1982
- On a proposal by Miss Kearney, seconded by Dr Powell, the report was noted.
- (iii) No. 4 Visiting Committee held at Mount Pleasant Hostel on 28 April 1982
- On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the report was noted.
- (iv) No. 4 Visiting Committee meeting held at St Clare's Home on 4 May 1982
- On a proposal by Cllr Mrs A Glenn, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the report was noted.

73/82

**AMBULANCE SERVICE DUN LAOGHAIRE**

The following Report No. 11/1982 from the Programme Manager, General Hospital Care, was submitted:

"1. The arrangement with Dun Laoghaire Corporation dates back over a number of years, prior to the establishment of the Eastern Health Board. The ambulance service at that time was relatively underdeveloped in terms of capability, including equipment and training of personnel.

In the meantime, the Board's own service at Loughlinstown ambulance base has expanded and developed to the point where it is now providing a fully comprehensive ambulance service throughout its area which includes the Borough of Dun Laoghaire.

The Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade operates one ambulance vehicle and provides a limited service - it does not handle maternity, fever or cardiac cases. This means, in practice, a duplication of service in that when the Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade Ambulance arrives and finds such a patient they radio to their base to request our Board's ambulance from Loughlinstown to deal with the situation.

In 1981 the Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade Ambulance dealt with a total of 1,991 calls. In that year our own ambulances serviced 6,887 calls from Loughlinstown. 3,527 of which were in the Borough of Dun Laoghaire.

An analysis of the total calls serviced by the Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade and the Board's own Ambulance Service in the area in 1981 shows that the average number of calls dealt with per day was as follows:-

	Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade	Eastern Health Board
12 midnight	1	2
8.00 am -4.00 pm	2	11
4.00 pm-12 mid-night	2	6



The Board at a meeting on 5 June 1980 considered and agreed a report on this matter - which was to the effect that formal notice be given to Dun Laoghaire Corporation of the Board's intention to terminate the arrangement. It was subsequently agreed in discussions at official level that a suitable date for termination would be 1 July 1982 and arrangements are at present in hand towards this end. It will be noted therefore, that over 2 years notice of the Board's intention to terminate the arrangement has been given to facilitate Dun Laoghaire Corporation in making any necessary adjustments.

The Board pays the Dun Laoghaire Corporation for the ambulance service provided by them on the basis of a proportion of the overall expenses of Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade - the precise proportion of such expenses payable by the Board is still subject to final agreement. The estimated total cost of the Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade Service for 1981, as notified to us by the Corporation amounts to £795,539. The amount of this expenditure claimed from the Board by Dun Laoghaire Corporation in respect of the ambulance service is £124,756. The amount paid by the Board to date for 1981 amounts to £72,441.

The expenses of the Fire Brigade Service generally have escalated significantly since the mid 1970's and it is expected that a further significant increase will now occur as a result of the new legislation introduced following the Stardust disaster.

Because the utilisation of the Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade Ambulance is not as intensive or continuous as that of the Board's own ambulances, the cost per call is significantly greater than that experienced by the Board.

It will be noted from the above that the Board's own ambulances, based at St Columcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown have increasingly been servicing the Dun Laoghaire Borough area and in fact at present service almost twice the number of calls responded to by the Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade Ambulance. The question of cost is particularly pertinent at this time and the existence of an expensive duplication of service is extremely difficult to justify. It is quite clear, from an analysis of the calls being serviced by the Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade and the Board's own ambulance service respectively, and from an examination of existing resources at Loughlinstown that the workload at present covered by the Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade ambulance can be absorbed by the Board's own service at significantly less cost than the amount at present being claimed by or indeed the amount being paid to. Dun Laoghaire Corporation by our Board.

I am aware that it has been suggested that the termination of the arrangement involving the Dun Laoghaire Fire Brigade will result in a worsening of the ambulance service in the Borough, particularly as regards response time. It must be emphasised that this will not be the case.

Our Board which has the statutory responsibility for this service is in a position to provide for the Borough a full-time specialised ambulance service with highly trained personnel and the most modern equipment available.

A detailed examination has been carried out of existing workload with the objective of ensuring that the highest level of communications efficiency and promptitude of response to calls will be maintained. An outline of these arrangements is as follows:-

(i) Arrangements are being made with the Post Office authorities to have '999' ambulance calls routed to Loughiinstown control.

(ii) An ambulance will be located 'on-station' at Our Lady's Clinic, Patrick Street, Dun Laoghaire during peak demand hours, which will be continuously monitored.

(iii) Other ambulances from Loughiinstown base will be mobile within the area, as at present, and can be diverted by radio at any given time.

6. I am satisfied that a more comprehensive, equally responsive and more economic ambulance service for the Borough of Dun Laoghaire can be provided following the termination of the present arrangement with Dun Laoghaire Corporation."

Following a discussion to which Cllra Hickey, Hand, Doyle, Carroll, Sweeney, Drs Shsehan, Meade and PowaN contributad and to which Mr Hickey replied, the following motion was proposed by Cllr Hickey, seconded by Dr Powell, and agreed.

"That Report No. 11/1982 re Ambulance Service be adopted thereby confirming our pravius decision of Juna 1980 to terminate the present arrangement with Dun Laoghaire Corporation."

74/1982

#### DISPOSAL OF LAND AT ST BRENDAN'S HOSPITAL

Tha following Report No. 15/1982 from the Chief Executive Officar was submitted:-

"The Health Board, at its meeting held on 5 May 1977, approved, in principle, of the granting of a site in the grounds of St Brendan's Hospital to the Eastern Hearth Staffs Sports Club Ltd for the purpose of providing a recreation complex for the members of the Club. Membership of the Club is open to staff of the Eastern Health Board, St James's Hospital and central administration of the Federated Dublin Voluntary Hospitals.

Following detailed discussions with representatives of the Club, agreement has been reached on boundaries, conditions etc. It is proposed, subject to the Board's approval, to grant a licence to the Club in respect of a plot of land of 1.95 acres at the rere of 226 - 230 North Circular Road with a road frontage on Upper Grangegorman, as shown on the attached map. It will be a condition of the licence that, in the event of the property not being used for the purpose intended, or ceasing to be used for that purpose, it will revert to the Board.

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

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

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

On a proposal by Dr McCarthy, seconded by Cllr Hynes, it was agreed that the proposal contained in the Report be adopted.

75/1982

#### DISPOSAL OF LAND AT BALLINACOR WEST, CO WICKLOW

It was agreed on the proposal of the Chairman that this item should be withdrawn for further consideration.

76/1982

#### TEMPORARY BORROWING

The following Report No. 17/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted.

"At meeting held on 4 March 1982 the Board consented to the temporary borrowing by way of overdraft up to an overall limit of £1.5 million during the quarter ending 30 June 1982.

It is considered that similar overdraft accommodation may be required during the September quarter 1982.

Accordingly, I request that the Board consents to borrowing by way of overdraft during the three months to 30 September 1982 to a maximum of £1.5 million.'

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Groome, the Board consented to the proposal contained in the report.

77/1982

#### JOINT COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND HYGIENE

The following report from the Chairman of the Joint Committee on Environmental Health and Hygiene was submitted.

"The Joint Committee on Environmental Health and Hygiene was established jointly by the Dublin City Council and the Eastern Health Board in May 1 980. The Committee was reconstituted by both the Dublin Corporation and the Eastern Health Board for the twelve months ending 27 May 1 982.

In that period the Committee has met regularly and has examined the following:-

1. The problems of slaughterhouses and knackers yards

Revised bye laws have now been prepared and these are at present the subject of examination by the Law Agent.

**2. The problem associated with stray dogs in Dublin**

A detailed report on this matter has been jointly prepared by the Dublin Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Health Inspector who have included in their recommendations, highlighted the need for the establishment of a Dog Warden Service. The National Action Committee for Dog Control are also actively engaged in this area and hope to meet the Minister for Agriculture to discuss their proposals in the near future. The Joint Committee will meet with the National Action Committee for Dog Control after the meeting with the Minister and should then be in a position to prepare a comprehensive final report.

In addition to completing work on the above the Joint Committee also intend to examine other areas pertaining to environmental health and hygiene e.g. control of piggeries, flatland, food hygiene etc. and. accordingly, the members of the Joint Committee recommend that the Committee should be reconstituted by both the Eastern Health Board and Dublin Corporation for a further period of one year from 27 May 1982."

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Durkan and Hynes, Miss Kearney and Dr Walker contributed, it was agreed, on a proposal by Cllr Mrs Glenn, seconded by Dr McCarthy, that the Joint Committee should be reconstituted for a further year from 27 May 1982.

79/1982

**PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES**

The reports of the following local committee meetings, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:

**(i) Dublin County Local Committee meeting held on 15 April 1982**

On a proposal by Cllr Reilly, seconded by Cllr Carroll, the report was noted.

**(ii) Dublin City Local Committee meeting held on 19 April 1982**

On a proposal by Cllr Mrs Glenn, seconded by Mrs Bonar, the report was noted.

**(iii) Kildare Local Committee meeting held on 22 April 1982**

On a proposal by Cllr Durkan, seconded by Cllr Stagg, the report was noted.

Cllr Stagg stated that he wished to congratulate Dr Murphy, Director of Community Care and Medical Officer of Health and her staff, on the excellent service provided for the people in Co Kildare. Cllrs Durkan and Groome were associated with Cllr Stagg's remarks.

80/1982

## NOTICES OF MOTION

- (i) The following motion was proposed by Dr Behan, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, and agreed:

"That the Chief Executive Officer with the assistance of the Departments of Health and Environment, submit an authoritative and comprehensive report on the health hazards posed by increasing levels of environmental pollution, indicating the types of pollution prevalent today, the regulations and statutes governing such pollution, the method and agencies of enforcement of those regulations and statutes, the monitoring techniques and facilities required and available to control pollution, the functions and powers of the health board, if any, in combatting different types of environmental pollution, and outlining the steps necessary to reduce the different types of environmental pollution which create a hazard to health."

- (ii) The following motion proposed by Dr Behan, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, and agreed:

"That the Health Board establish a special committee to investigate the levels of, and the health hazards from, environmental pollution prevalent in its functional area, with particular reference to the question of lead in petrol as a dangerous pollutant, and that such special committee seek and co-opt representatives of other statutory bodies and agencies involved with environmental pollution and invite submissions from interested parties on this problem in order to make recommendations to the Board on the improved control and reduction of environmental pollution which is hazardous to health."

- (iii) The following motion was proposed by Mrs Bonar

"In view of the obvious danger of keeping drugs in health centres, the Board should immediately enter into consultation with representatives of Pharmaceutical organisations to consider alternative arrangements for dispensing psychiatric drugs."

The motion was seconded by Cllr Mrs Glenn and following a discussion to which Drs Sheehan, Walker and Behan, Cllrs Sweeney, Stagg, Mrs Glenn and Carroll contributed, and to which Mr Keyes, Programme Manager, Special Hospital Care replied, it was agreed that a full report on this subject should be prepared for consideration by the members.

- (iv) The following motion was proposed by Dr Behan, seconded by Dr Powell, and agreed:

"Having noted the inadequate response of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs to the Board's enquiries and representations, this Health Board deplores the insensitive and incompetent bureaucratic action of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs in jeopardising human life by arbitrarily removing doctors and emergency medical services, including ambulance centres and maternity hospitals, from the 24 hour priority 'A' emergency telephone repair service and seeks an urgent meeting with the Minister for Health to prevail upon him to have these facilities restored before fatalities occur."

81/1982

## CORRESPONDENCE

Letters dated 23 April 1982 and 14 May 1982 from the Department of Health regarding information requested in respect of Capital Allocation on Health since the Health Boards were established, expenditure of National Sweepstakes money and applications to the Department of Health for assistance in Capital Projects since the Health Boards were established were noted.

It was agreed that a further letter should be addressed to the Department of Health stating that the Board required the information sought and requesting the information initially for 1982, 1981 and 1970 and that the information should be provided for the intervening years in due

82/1982

## OTHER BUSINESS

- (i) The Chairman referred to the election of professional members to the Board and stated that he was aware that some members were not seeking re-election. He thanked them for their contribution to the Board and expressed his regret that this was their last meeting. He offered his good wishes to those who were seeking re-election to the Board for a further term.

Ciirs Carroll, Sweeney, Mrs Glenn, Durkan, Stagg and the Chief Executive Officer associated themselves with the remarks of the Chairman.

Dr Meade and Dr Sheehan thanked the Chairman and other speakers for their kind remarks and for their good wishes.

- (ii) The Chief Executive Officer referred to the Board's consent at the April meeting to the proposed transfer from the Biological and Medical Research Institute Ltd to the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology Ltd of their interest in the agreement with the Board dated 22 September 1980. The consent was made conditional on the satisfactory resolution of points raised by the Board's legal advisors and the point raised by the St James's Hospital Board regarding the confusion which could be caused in the public mind by the title of the Institute. He informed the members that he had received, by hand, a letter dated 3 June 1982 from the Board's legal advisors which appeared to clarify the points raised in their letter of 1 April 1982. The letter also stated that it was understood that a change in the name of the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology was not possible as it had already been widely used internationally. Having regards to the contents of the letter of 3 June it seemed to him that arrangements could now be made to proceed with the drawing up of the documents necessary to effect the transfer of interest in the agreement of 22 September 1980 from the Biological and Medical Research Institute to the Institute of Clinical Pharmacology. The up-to-date situation was noted by the members.

The meeting concluded at 9.30 pm.

**CORRECT:** P B Segrave  
Chief Executive Officer

**CHAIRMAN**





## **EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

**Minutes of proceedings of 12th Annual Meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in  
the Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital  
on Thursday, 1 July 1982 at 6.00 pm**

### **PRESENT**

**Dr J D Behan  
Cllr L Belton  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr D Browne  
Dr M Butler  
Dr J Buttimer  
Cllr M Carroll  
Cllr E Doyle  
Prof J S Doyle  
Dr R J Draper  
Cllr B J Durkan  
Ald A FitzGerald T D  
Cllr M Freehill  
Mr J Gahan  
Cllr Mrs A Glenn**

**Cllr A Groome  
Cllr T Hand  
Dr R Hawkins  
Cllr P Hickey  
Cllr F Hynes  
Dr D I Keane  
Cllr T Leonard  
Dr P McCarthy  
Prof J McCormick  
Dr B Powell  
Cllr H Reilly  
Cllr E Stagg  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr G Timmins  
Cllr W Willoughby**

### **APOLOGIES**

**Ald B Ahem T D**

**Mr P Finegan**

### **OFFICERS IN A TTENDANCE**

**Mr T Keyes  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr K Hickey  
Mr J F Reynolds  
Mr L Kavanagh  
Prof B O'Donnell  
Mr J Doyle  
Mr F J McCullough  
Mr PJ Swords  
Prof I Browne  
Miss A Flanagan  
Mr A O'Brien**

**Mr M O'Connor  
Mr K Ward  
Miss M McGahem  
Mr C McQuaile  
Mr R Keane  
Dr V Barry  
Mr J Leech  
Miss M Kelly  
Miss E Lark in  
Miss C Cullen  
Miss R Carolan  
Mr T McManus**

83/1982

**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

Cllr Mrs Alice Glenn was proposed by Professor Doyle and seconded by Cllr Carroll. As there were no other nominations Cllr Mrs Glenn was declared elected.

Cllrs Carroll, Sweeney, Stagg, Durkan, Doyle, Hickey, Ald FitzGerald and Dr Behan congratulated Cllr Browne on his election as Lord Mayor of Dublin. Mr Keyes, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, on his own behalf, and on behalf of the staff, associated himself with the remarks of the members.

Cllr Mrs Glenn thanked the members for electing her to the office of Chairman and welcomed the new members to their first meeting of the Board.

84/1982

**ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN**

Cllr E Stagg was proposed by Cllr Browne and seconded by Cllr Reilly. Cllr P Hickey was proposed by Cllr Sweeney and seconded by Cllr Groome. Cllr Stagg was elected Vice-Chair man, the following being the voting:

**For Cllr Stagg - 23**

Dr J D Behan	Cllr A Glenn
Cllr L Belton	Cllr T Hand
Cllr D Browne	Dr R Hawkins
Dr M Butler	Cllr F Hynes
Dr J Buttimer	Dr P McCarthy
Cllr M Carroll	Prof J McCormick
Cllr E Doyle	Dr B Powell
Prof J S Doyle	Cllr H Reilly
Dr R J Draper	Cllr E Stagg
Cllr B J Durkan	Cllr G Timmins, T D
Ald A FitzGerald. TD	Cllr W Willoughby
Cllr M Freehill	

**For Cllr P Hickey - 5**

Mrs B Bonar	Cllr T Leonard
Cllr A Groome	Cllr J Sweeney
Cllr P Hickey	

Cllr Stagg thanked the members for electing him as Vice-Chairman.

Cllr Hickey thanked the members who had supported him and congratulated Cllr Mrs Glenn on her election as Chairman and Cllr Stagg on his election as Vice-Chair man.

85/1982

**APPOINTMENT OF VISITING COMMITTEES**

It was agreed that details of the membership of the Visiting Committees should be issued to the newly elected members to facilitate the filling of vacancies on them. -

The meeting concluded at 6.30 pm

CORRECT: T P Keyes  
D/Chief Executive Officer.

CHAIRMAN



## EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in  
the Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital  
on Thursday 1 July 1982 at 6.30 pm

### PRESENT

Dr J D Behan  
Cllr L Belton  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr D Browne  
Dr M Butler  
Dr J Buttimer  
Cllr M Carroll  
Cllr E Doyle  
Prof J S Doyle  
Dr R J Draper  
Cllr B J Durkan  
Ald A FitzGerald, TD  
Cllr M Freehill  
Mr J Gahan  
Cllr Mrs A Glenn

Cllr A Groome  
Cllr T Hand  
Dr R Hawkins  
Cllr P Hickey  
Cllr F Hynes  
Dr D I Keane  
Cllr T Leonard  
Dr P McCarthy  
Prof J McCormick  
Dr B Powell  
Cllr H Reilly  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr G Timmins, T D  
Cllr W Willoughby  
Cllr E Stagg

### APOLOGIES

Ald B Ahem. T.D.

Mr P Finegan

### IN THE CHAIR

Cllr Mrs A Glenn

### OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr T Keyes  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr K Hickey  
Mr J F Reynolds  
Mr L Kavanagh  
Prof B O'Donnell  
Mr J Doyle  
Mr F J McCullough  
Mr P J Swords  
Prof I Browne  
Miss A Flanagan  
Mr A O'Brien

Mr M O'Connor  
Mr K Ward  
Miss M McGahern  
Mr C McQuaile  
Mr R Keane  
Dr V Barry  
Mr J Leech  
Miss M Kelly  
Miss E Larkin  
Miss L Cullen  
Miss R Carolan  
Mr T McManus

67/82

**CONDOLENCES**

The Chairman informed the members of the recent deaths of Sr Carmel Anthony, founder of Madonna House, and of the father of Patricia Deering, Clerk/Typist, General Hospital Care Programme. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the deceased.

87/1982

**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

- (i) The Chairman informed the members that a meeting of the Committee on Child Care had been arranged for 15 July 1982 at 6 pm in the Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital.
- (ii) The Chairman, on behalf of the members congratulated the staff of Naas Hospital on winning the award of merit in the Irish Quality Control Association's National Hygiene Awards competition.
- (iii) The Chairman informed the members that she had been asked by a member of the Board to arrange a meeting of the Board's representatives on the St James's Hospital Board and that she intended to arrange such a meeting at an early date.

88/1982

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING**

**HELD ON 3 JUNE 1982**

The minutes, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Groome.

Dr Behan referred to Minute 81/1982 regarding the Board's request for information from the Department of Health which had not been supplied to date. It was agreed that a further letter should be issued to the Department expressing the Board's dissatisfaction with the delay in providing the information requested.

Cllr Doyle referred to Minute 73/1982 regarding the Ambulance Service in Dun Laoghaire and requested that it be recorded that an ambulance will be located "on station" at St Michael's Hospital during peak demand hours. This was agreed.

89/1982

**QUESTION**

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, it was agreed that the question lodged should be answered.

**Dr J Behan**

"To ask the Chief Executive Officer to list the number of vacancies, both professional and administrative, in the functional area and under the functional control of the Eastern Health Board which have been sent to the Local Appointments Commission for filling by competition since 1 January 1977, stating in each case the nature of the vacancy, the date upon which the Health Board considered the vacancy and authorised its filling, the policy instruction to the Local Appointments Commission for its filling, the date (approximately) when the competition was held, whether the post was filled as a consequence of that

Particular competition and, in the case of each position so sent to the Local Appointments Commission for filling, the name of every member, officer or employee of the Health Board asked to participate in the selection process."

**Reply**

"The information available to the Chief Executive Officer is being collected and will be circulated as soon as possible."

90/1982

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Chief Executive Officer read the following report, which was agreed by the Board:-

(i) Land at Cherry Orchard Hospital

"As stated in the report of the meeting of the No. 3 Visiting Committee held at Cherry Orchard on 15 June, Dublin Corporation was seeking to purchase approximately 15 acres of land at the rear of the hospital for housing purposes and adjacent to the 41 acres which were sold to them in 1972.

The Visiting Committee unanimously agreed to accede to the Corporation's request for the additional land, the terms of purchase to include the provision of a boundary (8 ft. high palisade fencing) plus a site of approximately 1 acre for a Welfare Home. Payment to the Board in the sum of £325,000 to include for the extra cost of the fencing.

A statutory notice in accordance with Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946 will be issued shortly."

(ii) Dispensary Residence at Ballinacor West, Dunganstown, Co Wicklow

"It is proposed to sell to Dr C P Bermingham the dispensary residence standing on one acre provided that agreement on a price is reached. In that event a statutory notice will issue and item will be on the agenda for a future Board meeting."

(iii) National Community Development Agency Bill, 1982

"Some notes on the National Community Development Agency Bill, 1982 have been circulated for the information of members. The proposed agency will generally fulfil the role of the former Combat Poverty Agency and its functions will include those performed at present by the National Social Services Board."

(iv) Environmental Pollution

"The Board adopted a motion at its last meeting seeking a comprehensive report on environmental pollution. I am circulating a report 'A Policy for the Environment' October 1980 prepared by the Environment Council. If members require additional information please contact me."

(v) Environmental Pollution - Lead in Petrol

"The Board at its last meeting adopted a motion setting up a special committee to examine environmental pollution - lead in petrol. Perhaps the Board would consider referring the motion to the Joint Committee on Environmental Health and Hygiene to examine and report."

On the suggestion of the Chairman, it was agreed that the National Community Development Agency Bill 1982 would be discussed at the August meeting of the Board.

91/1982

**NOMINATION OF MEMBER TO ST JAMES'S HOSPITAL BOARD**

Dr P McCarthy was proposed by Dr Behan and seconded by Cllr Browne.

Dr M Butler was proposed by Professor McCormick and seconded by Dr Draper.

Dr McCarthy was elected, the following being the voting:

**For Dr McCarthy - 24**

Dr J D Behan	Cllr A Groome	Cllr T Hand
Cllr L Belton		Dr R Hawkins
Mrs B Bonar		Cllr P Hickey
Cllr D Browne		Cllr F Hynes
Cllr M Carroll		Dr D I Keane
Cllr E Doyle		Dr P McCarthy
Professor J S Doyle		Dr B Powell
Cllr B J Durkan		Cllr H Reilly
Ald A FitzGerald		Cllr E Stagg
Cllr M Freehill		Cllr J Sweeney
Mr J Gahan		Cllr G Timmins
Cllr Mrs A Glenn		

**For Dr Butler - 4**

Dr M Butler	Dr R J Draper
Dr J Buttimer	Professor J McCormick

92/1982

**PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEES**

The reports off ths following Visiting Committees, having boon circulated, were dealt with a

- (i) No. 2 Visiting Committee meetings held at St Brendan's Hospital on 6 April and 25 May 1982

On a proposal by Dr Powell, seconded by Cllr Reilly, the report was noted.

Following a discussion to which Dr Powell, Cllr Reilly, Dr Behan, Cllrs Freehill, Durkan, Hynes, Hand and Carroll contributed and to which the Chief Psychiatrist and the Deputy Chief Executive Officer replied, it was agreed that the Care of the Aged Committee should be re-convened and that the Minister for Health should again be requested to receive a deputation from the Board to discuss the Care of the Aged report.

- (H) Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held in Area 7 (North Clarence Street) on 12 May 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Reilly, the report was noted.



**(iii) No. 1 Visting Committee Meeting held at St Columcille's Hospital on 20 May 1982**

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Reilly, the report was noted.

It was agreed that Dr Hawkins should fill one of the vacancies on the No. 1 Visiting Committee.

**(iv) No. 3 Visiting Committee meeting held in Cherry Orchard Hospital on 1 5 June 1982**

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Belton, the report was noted.

The members accepted the recommendation of the Visiting Committee that Unit 1 should, when it becomes vacant, be held in reserve for infectious diseases purposes.

On the suggestion of Dr Behan it was agreed that members would be provided with details of the beds available and their utilisation for each of the Board's institutions.

93/1982

**EXTENSTION TO PATHOLOGY LABORATORY - ST JAMES'S HOSPITAL**

The following Report No. 18/1982 from the Deputy Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"An application has been received from St James's Hospital for the Board's consent to the construction of an extension to the Pathology Laboratory consisting of the provision of a permanent extension at first floor level, with an Animal House at second floor level, for the purpose of creating teaching and research accommodation for the Trinity College Medical School. It is also proposed to construct a link bridge with the existing medical school building and a temporary two storey extension to that building. A drawing showing the proposed extension is attached.

The Governors of Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital - one of the three designated to move to the new St James's Hospital - have agreed to provide funds from the Capital at their disposal to enable the new buildings to be fitted out and also to provide additional teaching and research facilities. The arrangements for the construction of the extension will involve the St James's Hospital Board entering into a legal agreement with the Governors of Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital. An agreement will also be necessary between the Governors of Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital and Trinity College, Dublin.

Clause 2.11 of the Agreement dated 15 April 1974 between the Eastern Health Board and St James's Hospital Board states that the lessee (St James's Hospital Board) 'shall not assign, sub-let or part with possession of or allow any person to make use of the premises or any part thereof or grant any rights in respect thereof without the previous consent in writing of the lessor which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld'.

I recommend that the Board consent to arrangements outlined above subject to the indemnification of the Board, as lessor, against any claims which may arise in the course of construction of the extension."

On a proposal by Dr Powell, seconded by Dr McCarthy, the Board consented to the proposal contained in the report.

94/1982

## HEALTH BOARD {ELECTION OF MEMBERS) REGULATIONS 1972

The following Report No. 19/1982 from the Deputy Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"I advised the Board at the February meeting that it was intended to hold elections for the professional members who would take up appointment with effect from 1 July 1982.

The counting of votes took place on 15 June 1982 and the following persons were duly elected:

**A. Registered Medical Practitioners**

BUTLER, Michael 21 Waterloo Road. Dublin 4	Consultant in a General Hospital
DOYLE, J Stephen St Laurence's Hospital, North Brunswick Street, Dublin 7.	Consultant in a General Hospital
BEHAN, Jim Garden Hill House, 1 James's Street, Dublin 8.	Consultant Psychiatrist
BUTTNER, Jane Community Care Offices c/o St Ultan's Hospital Charlemont Street, Dublin 2.	Registered Medical Practitioner with special knowledge or experience in preventive medicine
MCCARTHY, Patrick Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow.	General Medical Practitioner
McCORMICK, James The Barn, Windgates, Bray Co Wicklow.	General Medical Practitioner
HAWKINS. Ray 2 Duncairn Terrace, Bray, Co Wicklow.	General Medical Practitioner
POWELL. Brendan St James's Hospital. Dublin 8.	Non-Consultant Hospital Doctor
DRAPER. Ronald John. 45 Fitzwillian Square, Dublin 2.	Consultant Psychiatrist

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**B . Registered Dentist**

**KEANE, Daniel I.**  
**Ashling, 7 Sefton,**  
**Rochestown Avenue, Dun**  
**Laoghaire, Co Dublin.**

**C. Registered Nurse**

**FINEGAN, Pearse St Vincent's**  
**Hospital, Elm Park, Dublin 4.**

**D. Registered Psychiatric Nurse**

**GAHAN, John, St Brendan's**  
**Hospital, Rathdown Road,**  
**Dublin 7.**

**E. Registered Pharmacist**

**BONAR, Mrs Bernadette, 9**  
**Leopardstown Park, Stillorgan**  
**Co Dublin."**

The Report was noted by the members.

95/1982

**NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH BOARDS**

The following members were nominated to represent the Health Board on the Association of Health Boards in Ireland.

**Cllr Mrs A Glenn**  
**Ald A FitzGerald, T D**  
**Dr P McCarthy**  
**Cllr D Browne**

**Dr Behan**  
**Dr R Hawkins**  
**Cllr M Carroll**  
**Cllr T Hand**

96/1982

**SUPPLY OF DRUGS FOR PSYCHIATRIC PATIENTS AT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS**

The following Report No. 20/1982 from the Deputy Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"At two recent meetings of the Board concern was expressed at the storage of drugs in health centres. This arises almost exclusively in connection with the provision of drugs to patients who attend Psychiatric Out-Patient Clinics at these centres.

The policy of the Board is that patients who attend Consultant Out-Patient Clinics should be referred back to their General Practitioner who will provide prescriptions for medication required and this prescription is dispensed by private pharmacies. Holders of medical cards receive such services free of charge.

In the case of psychiatric patients, particularly in the Dublin area, the tradition has been that drugs required are actually given at the health centres, despite the fact that a high proportion of such patients (about 70%) are medical card holders. The majority of these patients have never been on a general practitioner's list and, even where such arrangements were made, some patients proved unreliable in attending their doctors and taking their medication with consequent ill-effects on their health.

The implementation of Board policy can be dealt with in either of two ways:

1. The referral of all patients back to their general practitioners who will deal with their medication.
2. The provision of drugs to patients on prescriptions issued by Consultants under the long-term illness scheme.

Consultant Psychiatrists have expressed concern for their patients at the immediate implementation of the proposal No. 1. It is now suggested that proposal No. 2 would be implemented but that staff should seek to implement, in time, the policy of the Board. It will be appreciated that whatever arrangements are made will have to be phased in gradually and emergency supplies will have to be available to Consultants. The Chief Psychiatrist proposes to examine in detail one major out-patient area and to set up a demonstration model therein.

This scheme will be expensive to operate and, even allowing for some savings in staff and transport costs, the additional cost arising in a full year will be of the order of £90,000, based on current costs.

It is intended that the organisations representing pharmacists would be met to see whether these costs might be reduced and subject to that it is recommended that the Board seek the necessary funds from the Minister to implement the scheme outlined above."

Cllr Freehill referred to her motion which had been agreed at the April meeting of the Board:

"That the Department of Health be requested to negotiate with the Chemical Industry Federation to get agreement on the revised arrangements for purchase of drugs which was recommended in the Trident Report."

and the members supported her suggestion that another letter should be sent to the Department enquiring regarding progress in this matter and requesting a reply before the August meeting of the Board.

Following a discussion to which Dr Powell, Cllr Freehill, Dr Behan, Professor Doyle and Dr Hawkins contributed and to which Mr Keyes, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, replied, it was agreed that a further report would be submitted for consideration at the August meeting of the Board.

97/1982

**LONG-STAY ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED BY NURSING HOMES AND VOLUNTARY BODIES**

The following Report No. 21/1982 from the Deputy Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"A number of members have from time to time expressed viewpoints in relation to Private Nursing Homes for the elderly and particularly in relation to the maintenance of satisfactory standards in these homes.

I have had this matter examined and I now circulate herewith a report which analysis the current situation in relation to services provided in Private Homes and which makes recommendations regarding standards and also about future policy.

It is understood that the existing regulations governing standards in such homes are at present under consideration by the Minister for Health and consideration of these issues by our Board is therefore most timely."

It was unanimously agreed that consideration of this Report should be deferred until the September meeting of the Board.

98/1982

**HEALTH (LOCAL COMMITTEES) REGULATIONS 1972 and 1977**

The following Report No. 22/1982 from the Deputy Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"Pursuant to public advertisement for the setting up of electoral rolls and inviting nominations for elections to the five local committees, the following members have been elected in accordance with regulations and as listed hereunder:-

Professions	Doctors	Dantists	Public Health Nurses	Pharmacists	Psychiatric Nurses
	(3)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Dublin City	Dr J Behan Dr W Blunnie Dr E O'Connor				Mr P Cunningham
Dublin County					Mr F Casey
Dun Laoghaire					Mr P McGill
Kildare					Mr M Healy
Wicklow	Dr P McCarthy Dr R Hawkins Dr W J Roche				Mr J McCarthy

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As no nominations were received for the remaining vacancies under the various professions the staff organisations representing them were invited to nominate members. In accordance with the provisions of Section 7 (2) of the schedule to the Health (Local Committee) Regulations 1972, which provides for the filling of such vacancies, the following nominations have been received:

Professions:	Doctors	Dentists	Public Health Nurses	Pharmacists	Psychiatric Nurses
Dublin City			Miss Fitzsimons	Mr T Miller	
Dublin County			(for appt. by Board) - Miss E Fitzpatrick - Miss M Cotter	Mr M Shannon	
Dun Laoghaire Wicklow			Miss A Hanley (for appt. by Board) Ms T Henry MsW Gallagher	Mr T J Lynch Mr J Tierney	

Medical Officers: Dr B Sheehan is interested in appointment to the Dun Laoghaire Local Committee and Dr Miriam Brennan, Obstetrician Gynaecologist, is seeking appointment to the Wicklow Local Committee.

The Local Authorities have been asked to nominate two persons associated with voluntary bodies in accordance with the Regulations and to date Wicklow County Council have nominated three as set out hereunder:

- (1) Irish Country Women's Association
- (2) Bray Old Folks Association
- (3) Bray and District Nursing Homes Association.

Dublin County Council has nominated Mr A Devine and Mr J Byrne (outgoing) as representatives of voluntary organisations on the Dublin County Local Committee.

Pending receipt of outstanding replies from staff organisations and from the remaining Local Authorities I am submitting this report for noting by the Board. It is hoped to have a full list of the nominations for the Local Committees available for the August meeting."

The Report was noted by the members.

99/1982

**NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO FILL VACANCIES ON PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES COMMITTEE**

It was unanimously agreed that Mr J Gahan and Mr P Finegan be appointed to fill two vacancies on the Psychiatric Services Committee.

100/1982

**PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES**

The reports of the following local committee meetings, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:

- (i) **Dublin City Local Committee meeting held on 10 May 1982**  
On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Freehill, the report was noted.
- (ii) **Dun Laoghaire Local Committee meeting held on 11 May 1982**  
On a proposal by Cllr Carroll, seconded by Cllr Reilly, the report was noted.
- (iii) **Dublin County Local Committee meeting held on 13 May 1982**  
On a proposal by Cllr Carroll, seconded by Cllr Reilly, the report was noted.
- (iv) **Kildare Local Committee meeting held on 13 May 1982**  
On a proposal by Cllr Groome, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, the report was noted.
- (v) **Dublin County Local Committee meeting held on 27 May 1982**  
On a proposal by Cllr Carroll, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the report was noted.
- (vi) **Dublin County Local Committee meeting held on 10 June 1982**  
On a proposal by Cllr Reilly, seconded by Cllr Carroll, the report was noted.

101/82

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Durkan, seconded by Cllr Freehill, and agreed:

**"That this Board would consider by what means it can assist and protect babies who are being mistreated by their parents or guardians"**

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Durkan and Freehill contributed, and to which Mr Donohue, Programme Manager, Community Care Services, replied, it was agreed that the terms of the motion should be referred to the Child Care Committee for consideration.

The two motions which had been tabled by Cllr E Stagg were, in his absence, deferred to the August meeting of the Board.

102/1982

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- (i) Letter dated 11 June 1982 from the Department of Posts and Telegraphs regarding the emergency telephone repair service was noted.
- (ii) Letter dated 16 June 1982 from the Department of Health regarding Social Security for Migrant Workers in the EEC was noted.
- (iii) Statement 10 June 1982 from the Minister for Health that the Government had given approval for the transfer of responsibility for adoption from the Minister for Justice to the Minister for Health was noted.

The meeting concluded at 8.30 pm.

**CORRECT: T P Keyes**  
D/Chief Executive Officer

**CHAIRMAN**



## EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in  
the Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital  
on Thursday, 5 August 1982 at 6.00 pm

### PRESENT

Mr N Andrews  
Dr J D Behan  
Cllr L Belton  
Cllr D Browne  
Dr J Buttiner  
Cllr M Carroll  
Dr R J Draper  
Cllr B J Durkan  
Mr P Finegan  
Cllr M Freehill  
Mr J Gahan  
Cllr Mrs A Glenn  
Cllr A Groome

Cllr T Hand  
Cllr P Hickey  
Cllr F Hynes  
Mr D Kane  
Dr D I Keane  
Dr P McCarthy  
Prof McCormick  
Cllr H Reilly  
Cllr E Stagg  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr G Timmins, TD  
Cllr W C Willoughby

### APOLOGIES

Ald B Ahern T D

Dr R Hawkins

### IN THE CHAIR

Cllr Mrs A Glenn

### OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr P B Segrave  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr P J Swords  
Mr M Hayden  
Mr R Keane  
Prof B O'Donnell  
Mr J Doyle  
Mr F J McCullough  
Prof I Browne

Mr A O'Brien  
Mr K Ward  
Miss N Greene  
Miss C Doran  
Mr T Brady  
Mr M Cummins  
Miss L Larkin  
Mrs B Travers

103/82

**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

- (a) The Chairman welcomed to the meeting the new members who had been appointed by the Minister for Health and were present;  
Dr Niall Andrews, TD,  
Mr David Kane

- (b) Condolences

The Chairman informed the members of the recent death of Dr D Henry LDS, Dental Officer, Wicklow and Mr James Travers father of Mr Matt Travers, Assistant Section Officer, Cherry Orchard Hospital. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the deceased.

104/82

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF****(a) PROCEEDINGS OF 12 ANNUAL MEETING  
HELD ON 1 JULY 1982**

The minutes, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr Reilly seconded by Cllr Carroll.

**(b) PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING  
HELD ON 1 JULY 1982**

The minutes, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr Sweeney seconded by Cllr Hickey.

Dr Behan asked that (a) his concern and the concern reflected in the discussion at the July meeting regarding the changes in the emergency telephone repair services arrangements for doctors introduced by the Department of Posts & Telegraphs and (b) his query regarding the Eastern Health Board representation on any interview board established to appoint a consultant surgeon to Loughlinstown/St Vincent's be recorded. This was agreed.

105782

**QUESTIONS**

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes and seconded by Cllr Hickey it was agreed that the Chief Executive Officer seek the information requested as follows:-

Dr J Behan

1. "To ask the Chief Executive to obtain from the Department of Health a list of the numbers of General Hospitals currently being built or extended in the functional area of the Eastern Health Board stating also the original, the current and the projected final costs for these hospitals with dates of completion."

Dr J Behan

2. "To ask the Chief Executive Officer to obtain from the Department of Health a statement of the original, current and projected final cost of the new General Hospital at Beaumont together with its proposed date of completion and commissioning."

Dr J Behan

3. "To ask the Chief Executive Officer to obtain from the Minister for Health a list of all the voluntary, corporate and related bodies in the

functional area of the Eastern Health Board showing the title, date and number of their establishment order (if any) together with a list of their Board members, stating by whom they were appointed and the date when appointments to these bodies will next take place, if any."

106/82

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

(a) Committee on Children Sleeping and Living Rough

The Chief Executive Officer informed the Board that as Ms Noreen Kearney was no longer a member of the Board there was a vacancy on this committee. It was agreed that the filling of the vacancy would be on the agenda for consideration at the September Board meeting.

(b) Letter from Department of Health dated 27 July 1982 regarding bad numbers and specialties at Naas Hospital was circulated and agreed.

It was agreed further that the Minister be asked (a) to expedite the establishment of a project team to prepare a brief for the development of the hospital and (b) to consult with the Board on the composition of the project team prior to its establishment.

It was also agreed that the adequacy of the bed provision in medicine and surgery should be monitored during the planning process to ensure that the needs of the growing population in the catchment area were being met.

(c) Letter from Department of Health and Minister's statement in relation to the measures proposed to reduce public expenditure in 1982.

It was agreed that the matter be considered by a special meeting of the Board to be called when detailed information was made available to the Board by the Department and the implications for our Board assessed.

(d) Disposal of Land at St Ita's Hospital

The Chief Executive Officer informed the Board of the proposed sale of land at St Ita's Hospital to the Parish Priest, Portrane (1.5 acres) and the proposed lease of 1.24 acres to St Joseph's Hospital, Clonsilla. It was agreed that an option to exchange land with the Church authorities be included in the arrangement. The Chief Executive Officer also informed the members that a formal proposal to grant a lease to the ESB for a small site at Kilrock House, Howth would also be included on the agenda for the September meeting.

(a) The Chief Executive Officer referred to the statement issued by the Minister for Health in relation to the Sutton and O'Brien cases.

It was agreed that the Board should consider the matter. However, in light of the fact that the Board was continuing to provide care for the families and for persons mentioned in the report it was decided that the matter should be discussed by the Board in committee. It was agreed further that the matter might be discussed at the special meeting to be held in connection with our Board's finances.

107/82

## PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEES

The reports of the following visiting committees, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:-

- (i) Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held in Emmet House on 23 June 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Hickey seconded by Cllr Hynes the report was noted.

Cllr Glenn complimented Cllr Hickey on arranging the meeting. A discussion followed to which Cllr Hickey, Cllr Hynes, Cllr Stagg and Dr Keane contributed. The members referred particularly to the dental service to the shortage of dental officers. The question of using dental hygienists was raised in this regard. Mr Donohue stated that the Board's officers were examining the problem to seek possible solutions.

- (ii) No. 1 Visiting Committee meeting held in St Columcille's Hospital on 14 July 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Carroll seconded by Cllr Hand the report was noted.

Arising out of the report a discussion took place to which Dr McCarthy, Dr Behan, Cllrs Carroll, Sweeney, Hand, Mr Finegan, Professor McCormick and Mr Gahan contributed.

It was agreed that the Report of the Working Group on the "Organisation of General Hospital Services in the South-East Dublin and East Wicklow area" would be put on the agenda for consideration at the September meeting. The following motion was proposed by Dr J Behan and seconded by Cllr Carroll

"That no further discussions be entered into by the Board or its officers on St Columcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown until the Board has an opportunity to review its policy on the future development of St Columcille's and to review the report of the Working Party - Hospital Services in South East Dublin/East Wicklow."

The motion was adopted with Professor McCormick dissenting.

- (iii) Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held in Area 8 (Coolock) on 21 July 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Stagg seconded by Cllr Freehill the report was noted.

Cllr Hynes raised the matter of the public health nurse's involvement in the free fuel service. Cllr Stagg also referred to this matter as being undesirable. Mr Donohue stated that he appreciated the views expressed by the members and outlined the importance of having all relevant information available when decisions on individual applications were being made.

- (iv) No. 1 Visiting Committee meeting held in District Hospital Wicklow on 23 July 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney seconded by Cllr Hynes the report was noted.

The Board congratulated the Patients Committee on the fund raising activities for the Day Unit.

108/82

#### DISPOSAL OF LAND AT CHERRY ORCHARD HOSPITAL

The following Report No. 23/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:-

"The Board has received an application from Dublin Corporation to purchase land at the rear of the Hospital for housing purposes and adjacent to the 42 acres which was sold to them in 1972.

The area which the Corporation is interested in acquiring has been surveyed jointly by the Board and the Corporation and it is considered that in order to ensure a satisfactory boundary line to the remaining land in the possession of the Board it would be appropriate to dispose of approximately 16.9 acres of land instead of the 15.3 acres as originally proposed.

The Corporation has offered the Board the sum of £339,000 (which includes the cost of construction of a permanent boundary fence) plus a site of approximately one acre of serviced land for a Welfare Home.

The Dublin Fever Hospital Board became owners of approximately 136 acres of land in October 1938 and the property was subsequently transferred to the Dublin Health Authority/Eastern Health Board. The present holding is subject to a Land Commission Annuity of £63.18 per year.

The land remaining to the Board, taking into account previous disposals and the disposal now proposed, is approximately 75 acres.

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

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

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

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

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Glenn, Hynes, Sweeney, Groome and Carroll contributed, it was agreed on a proposal by Cllr Hynes seconded by Cllr Sweeney to dispose of the land as set out in the report.

109/82

**SUPPLY OF DRUGS FOR PSYCHIATRIC PATIENTS  
AT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS**

The following Report No. 24/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:-

"The Board at the last meeting asked for greater detail regarding the proposal to phase out the storage of drugs at health centres (Report No. 20/1 982 dated 22 June 1982). At the meeting it was stated that the objective would be to implement fully the policy of the Board to have patients who attend consultant out-patient clinics referred back to their general practitioner for medication requested through the normal pharmaceutical outlets.

The specific proposals set out at the meeting are as follows:

1. Two pilot areas will be chosen, Tallaght and Finglas. Consultants who provide psychiatric out-patient services there will be asked to refer their patients back to their general practitioners to provide their medication through the normal outlets.
2. In order to deal with any emergency cases in those areas and also to give time to safeguard patients who might be at risk because they could not be relied on to get their medication, consultants will be allowed, for a limited period, to write prescriptions to be dispensed by retail chemists who will be paid by the Board in the same way as for drugs supplied under the long term illness scheme.
3. Since psychiatric patients are legally entitled to have medicine supplied at consultant clinics (the only patients so entitled) those without medical cards may have to be dealt with in the way outlined above.
4. The Chief Psychiatrist will develop a demonstration model in St Brendan's Hospital.
5. The results of these pilot schemes will be studied after one month and a further report submitted to the Board.

These proposals are recommended for approval."

Following a discussion to which Dr Behan, Cllrs Freehill, Stagg, Sweeney, Mr Gahan and Dr Draper contributed, on a proposal by Cllr Stagg seconded by Dr Behan the proposals outlined in the report were agreed.

110/82

**HEALTH (LOCAL COMMITTEES) REGULATIONS 1972 and 1977**

The following Report No. 25/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:-

"Report No. 22/1982 submitted to the July Board meeting set out the results of the recent elections.

The filling of vacancies remaining after the election is a function of the Board. Under the regulations 3 doctors and 1 person from each of the other named professions may be appointed.

The filling of two vacancies from among persons associated with voluntary organisations is also a matter for the Board.

The current position in relation to these vacancies is as follows:

(a) Profession - Doctor

DUBLIN CITY	All vacancies filled.
DUBLIN COUNTY	Medical union nominated Dr Terry Hynes. No other nominations received to fill the two remaining vacancies. Previous appointees Dr Heffernan, St Ita's and Mr James O'Neill, 14 Rostrevor Terrace, Dublin 6.
DUN LAOGHAIRE	Dr B Sheehan seeks re-appointment. No nominations for two remaining vacancies, which were not filled in the period 1977 -1982.
KILDARE	One vacancy filled. No nominations received. Previous appointees were Dr Cowhey, Dr Brian Maguire and Dr M Waldon. As the vacancy filled is held by a general practitioner a selection between Drs Cowhey and Maguire is necessary. Dr Waldon is eligible to fill the consultant vacancy.
WICKLOW	Two vacancies filled by general practitioners. The last vacancy should be from the consultant grade. Dr Miriam Brennan seeks this assignment.

(b) Profession - Dentist

Two organisations represent this profession. The Irish Dental Association has indicated that it will submit nominations following their Council meeting in September. The Local Government and Public Services Union has not, as yet, replied to invitation to nominate.

The dentists serving on the Committees up to June last were as follows:

DUBLIN CITY	Mr M J Walsh, BDS
DUBLIN COUNTY	Mr S O'Hick
DUN LAOGHAIRE	Mr S Connell
KILDARE	Mr C Benson, BDS
WICKLOW	Mr V Delahunt

(c) Profession - Pharmacist

The Irish Pharmaceutical Union has submitted the following nominations:

DUBLIN CITY	Mr T Miller, FRSI
DUBLIN COUNTY	Mr M Shannon, MPSI
DUN LAOGHAIRE	Mr T J Lynch, MPSI
KILDARE	Mrs C O'Connor, FPSI
WICKLOW	Mr J Tierney, MPSI

**(d) Profession - Psychiatric Nurse All**

vacancies filled.

**(e) Profession - Public Health Nurse**

The following nominations have been received to fill one vacancy on each of the Committees:

	(a) Irish Nurses' Organisation	(b) Local Govt & Public Services Union
Dublin City	Miss M Fitzsimmons	Miss Honors Sheehan
Dublin County	Miss E Fitzpatrick ) Ms Mgt Cottar )	Miss Phil Stynes
Kildare	Ms N Campbell	
Widclow	Ms Teresa Henry ) Ms W Gallagher )	
Dun Laoghaire	Miss A Hanley	Ms M Boland (assigned as Health Education Coordinator)

The following nominations have been received from the local authorities to fill two vacancies from among persons associated with voluntary organisations concerned with social services.

<b>DUBLIN CITY</b>	Sr Claude and Mr Gleeson
<b>DUBLIN COUNTY</b>	Mr A Devine and Mr J Byrne
<b>DUN LAOGHAIRE</b>	Sr Clare Murray, Little Sisters of the Assumption, Mr Thomas Holden, Chairman, Cuala GAA Club
<b>KILDARE</b>	No nominations Previous appointees Sr M Carmel, Moore Abbey and Mr M Bermingham, KARE
<b>WICKLOW</b>	Mrs I Hynes, Bray Old Folks Association, Mrs P McNamara, Co Wicklow Association for the Mentally Handicapped."

'Health (Local Committees) Regulations, 1972 Par 5 (1) (e)

'...a consultant in a general hospital serving the functional area of the committee and two other registered medical practitioners practising in its functional area, at least one of whom shall be a general practitioner.'

The Chief Executive Officer pointed out to the members that vacancies still exist on some local health committees. On a proposal by Cllr Freehill seconded by Dr Buttimer consideration of the report was deferred to the September meeting.



111/82

**NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
BILL 1982**

The following Report No. 26/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:-

"In considering my report on this Bill at the meeting on 1 July 1982 the Board decided to deliberate this matter further at their meeting on 5 August 1982. I am now circulating copies of the Bill as introduced by the Minister for Health and the Explanatory Memorandum which accompanied it.

I have already, in my previous report, summarised the general provisions in the Bill and detailed the functions of the proposed Agency.

The Agency's most important roles will, in my view, be the carrying out of their functions in relation to identifying communities with special needs, coordinating programmes involving other bodies and promoting community self-help to meet the needs identified, advising the Minister in relation to policy matters and promoting research into social deprivation and community self-help.

It is to be expected that the work of the Agency in co-ordinating programmes involving statutory and other agencies will provide increasing opportunities for co-operation between health boards and e.g. local authorities as housing bodies, educational bodies and voluntary bodies in meeting the needs of selected areas of population.

Since the functions of the Agency, as outlined in the Bill, will impinge so directly on the work of health boards it would be expected that the Board will be given a significant involvement in the councils of the Agency."

Following a discussion to which Dr Behan, Cllrs Glenn, Freehill, Stagg and Durkan contributed, it was agreed that the implications of the Bill for our Board might be considered at a Special Meeting of the Board. It was agreed that in the meantime the Chief Executive Officer would write to the Minister for Health indicating our Board's interest and concern and requesting representation on the Agency to be established under the Bill.

112/82

**GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES (PAYMENTS) BOARD  
REPORT FOR 1981**

The following Report No. 27/1982 from the) Chief Executive Officer was submitted:-

"The report of the General Medical Services (Payments) Board for 1981 has been circulated to the Board. The report shows that a total of £71,103,201 was paid to doctors and pharmacists for the year ended 31 December 1981 compared with a total of £56,616,485 paid the previous year, representing an increase of 25.6%.

**GROSS EXPENDITURE (Doctors' fees and medicines)**

	1979 £	1980 £	1981 £	% Increase on 1980
EHB	11,449,729	13,817,303	17,435,097	26.2%
National	46,770,461	56,616,485	71,103,201	25.6%

**FEES PAID TO DOCTORS**

	1979 £	1980 £	1981 £	% Increase on 1980
EHB	3,551,659	4,072,791	4,754,562	16.7%
National	15,404,548	18,005,725	20,919,078	16.2%

**INGREDIENT COST OF MEDICINES (including vat)**

	1979 £	1980 £	1981 £	% Increase on 1980
EHB	5,684,625	7,154,625	9,578,664	33.9%
National	20,695,568	26,118,985	35,034,800	34.1%

**DISPENSING FEES PAID TO PHARMACISTS**

	1979 £	1980 £	1981 £	% Increase on 1980
EHB	2,154,640	2,514,070	3,012,378	19.8%
National	7,348,199	8,640,013	10,343,295	19.7%

**STOCK ORDERS (ingredient cost, dispensing fee & vat)**

	1979 £	1980 £	1981 £	% Increase on 1980
EHB	58,305	75,780	89,503	18.1%
National	3,262,054	3,775,620	4,713,953	243%

\*A sum of £92,075 for needles end syringes is included.

**Ingredient Cost of Medicines**

The total amount paid for the ingredient cost of medicines i.e. cost exclusive of pharmacists fees accounted for 54% of the total of £71,103,201 paid for consultations and medicines for 1981. The total amount paid for the ingredient cost of medicines in the Eastern Health Board area also accounted for 54% of the total of £17,435,097 paid for consultations and medicines.

### Administration

For the year 1981 the cost of administration in the Payments Board was £995,657 (1.38% of the total expenditure) of which approximately £244,334 was apportioned to the Eastern Health Board. The cost of administration of the service in the offices of the Eastern Health Board was £361,000. The total cost of administration for the services in the Board's area for 1981 was therefore £605,334.

### Participating Doctors

Table 1 page 11 shows that at the 31 December 1981 there were 454 doctors (including 49 former district medical officers) participating in the Scheme in Dublin, Wicklow and Kildare representing 33% of the total number of doctors participating in the Scheme.

### Participating Pharmacists

Table 2 page 12 shows that at the 31 December 1981 there were 384 pharmacists in the Board's area - 34% of the total pharmacists participating in the Scheme.

### Persons Covered by Medical Cards

The number covered by medical cards in each of the health board areas is shown in Table 4 page 14. The figure for the Eastern Health Board as at the 31 December 1981 was 271,276 (22.73% of the total population) as against 256,217 (22% of the total population) as at 31 December 1980.

Overall payments per person (total cost of consultations together with total cost of prescriptions divided by total of persons on doctors' panels)

	1979	1980	1981
	£	£	£
EHB	43.39	53.91	65.85
National	38.62	47.35	58.73

### Number of Consultations by Doctors paid by fee

Table 8 page 18 lists the number of consultations by doctors paid by fee in each health board area. It will be noted that for the year ended 31 December 1981 the number of consultations by doctors in the Board's area was 1,710,441 of which 1,322,696 were surgery consultations and 387,745 were domiciliary visits. The number of consultations in the Eastern Health Board area represents approximately 24% of the total (7,175,201) for the country.

In Table 22 page 32 it will be seen that the average payments 10 doctors per consultation for the Eastern Health Board area for year ended 31 December 1981 was £2.78 which was almost 5% below the national average of £2.92.

### Visiting Rates

In Table 10 page 20 it will be noted that the average visiting rate of doctors (paid by fee) in the Board's area for year ended 31 December 1981 was 6.54 as against 6.46 for the previous year. The national average visiting rate for 1981 was 6.03. The surgery and domiciliary visiting rate in the Eastern Health Board area was the highest in the country and was 8% above the national average.

It should be noted that, based on current costs, an increase of 0.1% in the average annual visiting rate for all doctors in the country results in extra payments of approximately £1.2 million in the year.

Tables 11-18 inclusive allow of a comparison of visiting rates of doctors as follows:

HEALTH BOARD	VISITING RATE OF DOCTORS			
	Up to 5.9	6.0 - 7.9	8.0 - 9.9	10 and over
Eastern	155	144	67	16
Midland	38	34	9	2
Mid-Western	52	44	3	1
North Eastern	49	42	10	5
Northwestern	43	35	9	-
South Eastern	94	47	6	1
Southern	72	100	12	4
Western	84	62	4	-

#### Number of Prescriptions Dispensed by Pharmacists

In Table 23 page 33 it will be noted that the total number of items dispensed in the Board's area for the year ended 31 December 1981 was 3,590,633. The total number of items dispensed nationally was 12,267,954 and included in the latter figure are 3,024 million items which can be purchased in a pharmacy without a doctor's prescription. The cost of these items exclusive of the doctors consultation fees came to £8.412 million.

Consultation fees paid to doctors in the period from January 1981 to December 1981 inclusive:

No. of doctors	Income range	
	From	To
	£	£
76	0	2,500
52	2,501	5,000
52	5,001	7,500
59	7,501	10,000
37	10,001	12,500
37	12,501	15,000
32	15,001	17,500
20	17,501	20,000
43	20,001	25,000
19	25,001	30,000
4	30,001	35,000
1	35,001	40,000
1	40,001	45,000
1	45,001	50,000
2	50,001	55,000

Income ranges of pharmacists based on dispensing fees paid in the period from 1 January 1981 to 31 December 1981

No. of pharmacists	Income range	
	From £	To £
69	0	2,000
60	2.001	4.000
94	4.001	6.000
40	6,001	8.000
32	8.001	10.000
27	10.001	12.000
23	12.001	14,000
15	14.001	16.000
21	16.001	20,000
3	20.001	25.000
8	25.001	30.000
3	30.001	35.000
2	35.001	40,000
1	Over £40.000	

#### Most commonly prescribed drugs

Table 35 page 45 sets out the thirty most commonly prescribed drugs in the order of their prescribing frequency in 1 981.

In Table 36 (page 46) there is an analysis of prescribing frequency according to therapeutic classification.

Distribution of drugs and medicines according to therapeutic classification for the year ended 31 December 1981

In Table 37 (pages 47 to 51 inclusive) the distribution is shown under the headings of therapeutic class, prescribing frequency, % of scheme total and ingredient cost.

#### Summary of Statistical Information

Table 38 (page 52) is a summary of statistical information on the Choice-of Doctor Scheme in the eight health board areas for the five years ended 31 December 1981.

#### Other Relevant Information

In 1981, the circumstances relating to claims for remuneration by one doctor from the Eastern Health Board area was investigated by the Investigation Group. It was decided by the Group that a reduction from remuneration be made. The doctor concerned exercised his right to appeal but the appeal had not been heard at the end of the year.

The appeals of four doctors in the Eastern Health Board area against the Investigating Group's decision for a reduction of their remuneration was heard during 1981. In all cases the appeals were rejected."

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Sweeney, Glenn, Freehill and Dr Behan contributed the report was noted.

## 113/82 PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES

The reports of the following local committee meetings having been circulated were dealt with as follows:-

- (i) Wicklow Local Committee meeting held on 21 May 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes seconded by Cllr Sweeney the report was noted.

- (ii) Dublin County Local Committee meeting held on 8 July 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Hickey seconded by Cllr Carroll the report was noted.

- (iii) Kildare Local Committee meeting held on 24 June 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Stagg seconded by Cllr Durkan the report was noted.

## 114/82

## NOTICES OF MOTION

- (i) The following motion was proposed by Cllr Stagg, seconded by Cllr Durkan and agreed:

"That the Eastern Health Board provide canteen facilities for the staff of St Vincent's Hospital, Athy, to the same standard as those pertaining at the General Hospital, Naas and that pending the completion of such facilities improved temporary facilities be provided forthwith."

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Stagg and Durkan contributed. Mr Swords informed the members that the Board is examining the possibility of providing a temporary dining accommodation at St Vincent's, Athy as an interim measure and pending the implementation of the development plan for the hospital.

- (ii) The following motion was proposed by Cllr Stagg and seconded by Cllr Durkan and agreed:

"That the 'pocket money' allowance paid to Old Age Pensioners in long term care be increased in line with the increases in pensions payable to such Old Age Pensioners."

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Stagg and Durkan contributed the Chief Executive Officer informed the members that the Board's officers determine the allowance paid to each individual, taking into account his/her capacity to use the allowance, his/her personal requirements and other relevant factors. Every effort is made to fix the allowances to meet the needs of individual patients. The Chief Executive Officer said that he would examine individual cases raised by Cllr Stagg.

- (iii) The following motion was proposed by Cllr Hickey and seconded by Deputy Andrews and agreed:

"That consideration be given to the extension of the facilities for training speech impaired or language disordered children, available in the Language Unit, Ballinteer Health Centre, to embrace the full primary school programme (up to age 12, at least)."

- (iv) The following motion proposed jointly by Cllr Hynes and Cllr Sweeney and seconded by Dr Buttimer, was considered in committee as this matter is at present sub judice.

"That this Board acquire the former dispensary residence at Ballinacor, Kilbride, Wicklow, for use as a hostel for psychiatric patients, and by so doing help to relieve the overcrowding at Newcastle Hospital."

It was agreed that a further report in the matter would be presented to the next meeting of the Board.

- (v) The following motion was proposed by Cllr Sweeney and seconded by Cllr Hynes:

"That this Board agreed to seek to have St Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum upgraded to the status of County Hospital."

It was agreed that the motion should be deferred to enable alternatives to be considered.

- (vi) The following motion was proposed by Dr Behan and seconded by Cllr Carroll and agreed:

"That in view of the imminence of completion and commissioning of the new General Hospital at Beaumont, and cognisant of its responsibility to the public to develop a balanced integrated health service, the Eastern Health Board seek an urgent meeting with the Minister for Health to obtain a fifty per cent share of the Board of Management of the new hospital on the lines of the existing St James's Hospital and as proposed for Tallaght."

115/82

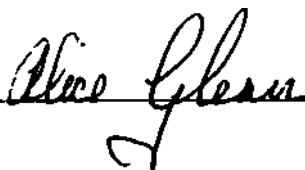
#### OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr Stagg enquired as to whether or not the Board had received details of the 1982 83 Free Fuel Scheme and whether they incorporated the Board's proposals for improvements. The Board was advised that no details of the 1982 83 scheme had as yet been received. On the proposal of Cllr Stagg the Board agreed to request the Minister for Social Welfare to increase the allowance made under this scheme to the value of £6 per week for 1982/83.

The meeting concluded at 9.30 pm.

CORRECT P B Segrave  
Chief Executive Officer

CHAIRMAN







## **EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in  
the Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital  
on Thursday, 2 September 1982 at 6.00 pm

### **PRESENT**

Mr N Andrews TD  
Dr J D Behan  
Cllr L Belton  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr D Browne  
Dr M Butler  
Dr J Buttimer  
Cllr M Carroll  
Prof J S Doyle  
Dr R J Draper  
Cllr B J Durkan  
Mr P Finegan  
Ald A FitzGerald. TD  
Cllr M Freehill  
Mr J Gahan

Cllr Mrs A Glenn  
Cllr A Groome  
Cllr T Hand  
Dr R Hawkins  
Cllr P Hickey  
Cllr F Hynes  
Mr D Kane  
Dr D I Keane  
Cllr T Leonard  
Dr B Powell  
Cllr E Stagg  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr G Timmins, TD  
Cllr W C Willoughby

### **APOLOGIES**

Prof J McCormick

Cllr H Reilly

### **IN THE CHAIR**

Cllr Mrs A Glenn

### **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr P B Segrave  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr K J Hickey  
Mr J Reynolds  
Mr L Kavanagh  
Mr F J McCullough  
Miss A Flanagan  
Mr A O'Brien  
Mr P J Swords  
Mr T McManus  
Mr K Ward

Prof T Lynch  
Mr E Butler  
Miss N Greene  
Miss C Doran  
Mr M O'Connor  
Mr C McQuaile  
Mr M Cummins  
Miss E Larkin  
Mrs B Travers  
Mr R Keane  
Mr J Leech

116/82

**CONDOLENCES**

The Chairman informed the members of the recent deaths of Mrs Patricia O'Donnell wife of Professor Brendan O'Donnell and of Dr Denis Bradley former medical officer, St Brendan's Hospital. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the deceased.

117/82

**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

- (i) The Chairman referred to the letters which had been received from the Department of Health regarding a revised allocation of non-capital expenditure for 1982 and reductions in staff numbers and stated that the Minister for Health had arranged to meet with the Chairmen and Chief Executive Officers of Health Boards on 21 September 1982. The members agreed with her suggestion that a special meeting to consider cuts in the budget should be held on 16 September 1982 at 6 pm. It was also agreed that the National Community Development Agency Bill 1982 and the statement issued by the Minister for Health in relation to the Sutton and O'Brien cases should be on the agenda for the special meeting.
- (ii) The Chairman informed the members of Cllr Hickey's request that meetings of the Community Care Visiting Committee which had been arranged for 15 and 22 September should be rearranged for 16 and 21 September 1982 at 10 am. It was agreed that the meetings should be rearranged as requested.

118/82

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING  
HELD ON 5 AUGUST 1982**

The minutes, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Sweeney.

Dr Behan noted that the Department of Health had not replied to the three questions which he had tabled for the August meeting of the Board and that the urgent meeting which had been sought by the Board with the Minister for Health to obtain a 50% share of the Board of Management of the new hospital at Beaumont had not been arranged. He expressed his extreme dissatisfaction with the manner in which the Department of Health had failed to provide the information requested by the Board and suggested that the Department should be informed that replies are required before the next meeting of the health board. Cllrs Carroll and Stagg expressed their agreement with Dr Behan's remarks.

119/82

**QUESTION**

On a proposal by Cllr Hand, seconded by Cllr Carroll, it was agreed that the question lodged should be answered.

Dr R J Draper

"To ask the Chief Executive Officer to explain the criteria used to determine the fate of small GMS lists upon the death of the participating doctor or his withdrawal from the service for other reasons."

Reply

Consideration is given to the following factors when vacancies arise in the GMS (Medical Card) Service when a doctor ceases to participate:

1. The number of medical card holders and dependants covered by the GMS panel of the doctor who has ceased to practise.
2. The geographical spread and the age pattern of people on the panel and the type of area covered (e.g. urban, rural etc).
3. The number of doctors participating in the scheme remaining in the area and the choice available to the eligible patients.
4. The number of persons covered by the scheme in the area and the average number of patients per participant doctor in the area.

120/82

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Chief Executive Officer read the following report, which was agreed by the Board:

"Allergy Clinic

For some time our Board has sought to establish a consultant clinic for persons suffering from allergies.

The Board's Medical and Allied Research Committee also considered the matter and agreed that a clinic should be established.

Professor Doyle finally agreed to provide a weekly clinic and following discussion with St. Laurence's Hospital I am pleased to advise the Board that arrangements have been finalised for a clinic to be conducted by Professor Doyle at St Laurence's Hospital on Thursdays at 2 pm for patients referred from their family doctor.

The clinics commenced today and progress will be reviewed in light of demand for the service."

121/82

**DISPOSAL OF LAND AT KILROCK HOUSE, HOWTH**

The following Report No. 28/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"The ESB has requested that a small site be made available on this property for the establishment of a 10KV Sub-Station to improve the electrical distribution network in the area. The proposed site, as indicated on the attached OS

1:1,000 map, measures 10 ft x 8 ft approximately and would be used to erect two prefabricated sealed units approximately five feet high overall mounted on a concrete base. Access to the site would be through a new gate which the ESB proposes to supply and erect in the existing boundary wall thereby ensuring there would be no encroachment for maintenance works on the Board's property.

The improvements in electrical distribution resulting from the establishment of a Sub-Station will be of immediate benefit to Kilrock House which has been subject to temporary disconnections for some years due to lack of capacity in the area.

It is proposed subject to the Board's approval to lease the site as detailed to the ESB for a term of 100 years at a nominal rent of 5p per annum and a consideration of £200. The ESB will be responsible for all legal costs subject to the preparation of a formal lease by the Law Agent.

This Report is submitted in accordance with Section 83 of the Local Government Act 1946.

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

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

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Sweeney, Groom\* and Hynes contributed it was proposed by Cllr Hickey, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, and agreed that the proposal outlined in Report No. 28/1982 be adopted. The members also agreed with a suggestion that the Chief Executive Officer should negotiate a nominal rent of £20 per annum from the ESB.

122/82

#### DISPOSAL OF LAND AT ST ITA'S HOSPITAL, PORTRANE

The following Reports Nos. 30/1982 and 31/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer were submitted:

"Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 83, Local Government Act 1946 that it is proposed to dispose of 1.5 acres of land at St Ita's Hospital, Portrane as set out in the attached map to the Parish Priest at Portrane for the purpose of building a church, a priest's house and community hall.

Consideration proposed in respect of this disposal is:

- (a) £22,500 or
- (b) Land or property of equal value required by the Board and made available to the Board by the Church Authorities.

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

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

"Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 83, Local Government Act 1946 that it is proposed to dispose of 1.24 acres of land at St Ita's Hospital, Portrane as set out in the attached map to St Joseph's Hospital, Clonsilla for the purpose of building a holiday home for mentally handicapped adults from that hospital.

Consideration proposed in respect of this disposal is a licence at a nominal rent with provision that the property revert to the Board if the site and building are not used for the purpose stated.

Section 83 provides that at the first meeting of the Eastern Health Board held after the expiration of ten clear days from the date of circulation of this report the Board may resolve that the disposal of the property as proposed shall not be carried out or that it shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the resolution. If the Board resolves that the disposal shall not be carried out, it shall not be carried out. On the other hand, if the Board does not pass a resolution as to the manner in which the disposal shall be carried out, the disposal may, with the consent of the Minister for Health, be carried out in the manner set out above."

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Stagg, Groome, Sweeney and Hynes contributed it was agreed that the proposals contained in the two reports should be referred back to the No. 3 Visiting Committee and that an early meeting of that Committee should be arranged.

123/82

#### PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEE

The report of the No. 1 Visiting Committee meeting held at Newcastle Hospital on 17 June 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hand, the report was noted.

124/82

#### LONG-STAY ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED BY PRIVATE NURSING HOMES AND VOLUNTARY BODIES

At the Chairman's request the Chief Executive Officer introduced the Report 'Long-stay accommodation provided by private nursing homes and voluntary bodies' and set out the background to it.

He referred to our Board's concern about the need in our area for services for elderly citizens and to the Report which the special committee chaired by our current Chairman, Cllr Mrs Alice Glenn, submitted to the Board in April 1980, which was adopted by our Board and which set out specific policy guidelines for the development of a comprehensive service for the elderly in our area.

The Report recognised what it described as "time of great financial stringency" and stated further that "it is evident that in regard to many of the recommendations some time must elapse before they could be put into effect.

There are some which should be tackled at once however. Services such as providing extra assessment/rehabilitation beds, welfare homes, day hospitals and adequate transport". We have been endeavouring to tackle these priorities as identified by the Board. In relation to day hospitals and adequate transport facilities, developments at St Colman's, Rathdrum, St Clare's, Ballymun and St Vincent's, Athy and at Baltinglass District Hospital, while relatively modest are nonetheless significant and we are encouraged by the great interest and support shown by members of the Board in relation to these efforts which have significant local community understanding and support for what we are doing.

In relation to the provision of other facilities identified as priorities by our Board he advised the members that the Minister for Health has now agreed to the establishment of a small group to formulate a practical medium term development programme for our area in relation to geriatric assessment/rehabilitation beds, long stay nursing care beds and welfare places. It will be the task of the group to prepare specific development proposals for consideration and approval by our Board and subsequent submission to the Minister.

With regard to services provided by private homes and voluntary bodies in our Board's area a number of important issues have been raised by members during the course of the Board's deliberations over the past two years but he felt that there was a need to obtain factual information on the overall picture in our area so as to be in a position to adequately advise our Board on the matter. He had, therefore, asked the Programme Manager, General Hospital Care, to report to him on the current situation in our area. He had circulated the report to the Board members for their consideration as it dealt in detail with a number of significant aspects of the important services provided by private nursing homes and voluntary bodies, including those raised by Board members, and also contained proposals in relation to how these might be tackled in the future.

In the course of a lengthy discussion on the Report, to which Cllrs Freehill, Stagg, Browne, Willoughby, Hand, Carroll, Durkan and Hynes, Drs Hawkins, Butler and Behan, Mr Finegan and Mr Gahan contributed, and to which the Chief Executive Officer and Mr Hickey, Programme Manager, General Hospital Care replied, the members welcomed the Report and congratulated Mr Hickey and those responsible for its production. In the course of the discussion the following points were made by members:-

- more links with the local community should be established and in particular school children should be encouraged to visit residents in nursing homes
- closer links should be established with public libraries
- formal links should be developed between the Board and each nursing home
- difficulties could be expected in the implementation of the recommendation regarding comprehensive screening of applicants prior to their admission to long-stay accommodation.
- the proposed two tier structure of contributions was likely to present problems
- responsibility for the Care of the Aged should be transferred from the General Hospital to the Community Care Programme.
- the proposal in paragraph 6.6 of the draft revised standards that there should be one wc per 8 patients was felt to be inadequate as was the proposal that there should be not less than one bath for every 15 patients.

At the conclusion of the discussion the following motion was proposed by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, and agreed:

"That the report 'Long-stay Accommodation provided by Private Nursing Homes and Voluntary Bodies' be noted."

125/82

**REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE ORGANISATION OF  
GENERAL HOSPITAL SERVICES IN SOUTH-EAST DUBLIN AND  
EAST WICKLOW AREA**

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, it was agreed that this item should be adjourned to a special meeting to be arranged when the Programme Manager, General Hospital Care, has completed his Report.

126/82

**TEMPORARY BORROWING**

The following Report No. 29/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"At meeting held on 3 June 1982 the Board consented to the temporary borrowing by way of overdraft up to an overall limit of £1.5 million during the quarter ending 30 September 1982.

It is considered that similar overdraft accommodation may be required during the December quarter 1982.

Accordingly, I request that the Board consents to borrowing by way of overdraft during the three months to 31 December 1982 to a maximum of £1.5 million."

On a proposal by Cllr Carroll, seconded by Professor Doyle, the following motion was agreed:

'That the Board consents to the proposal contained in Report No. 29/1982 re Temporary Borrowing'.

127/82

**JOINT COMMITTEE FOR CHILDREN SLEEPING ROUGH**

On a proposal by Cllr Freehill, seconded by Cllr Stagg, it was agreed that Ms Noreen Kearney, whose membership of the Board ceased on 30 June 1982, should continue to represent the Board on the Joint Committee for Children Sleeping Rough.

128/82

**PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES**

The reports of the following local committee meetings, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:

- (i) Dun Laoghaire Local Committee meeting held on 13 July 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Hickey, the report was noted.

- (ii) Dublin City Local Committee meeting held on 11 August 1982

On a proposal by Cllr Browne, seconded by Dr Behan, the report was noted.

129/82

**HEALTH (LOCAL COMMITTEES) REGULATIONS 1972 AND 1977**

It was agreed that consideration of Report No. 25/1982, which had been adjourned from the August meeting of the Board, should be further adjourned to the October meeting.

130/82

**MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND -ST  
BRENDAN'S HOSPITAL PROJECT**

The following Report No. 32/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"In 1979 the St Brendan's Hospital Branch of the Mental Health Association of Ireland was founded with the objective of availing of the interest and dedication of civic-minded citizens to help improve the social amenities of the hospital and to support and work in partnership with the hospital staff.

The Mental Health Association of Ireland is a national body incorporated in 1966 and works through its 32 local Mental Health Associations throughout the Republic. These local Mental Health Associations are made up of groups of people from all walks of life who believe that members of a community should care for one another and help attempt to find way of lightening the burden on a family which has a member who is mentally ill. They bring company into the lonely lives of many people in mental hospitals and of others who have been discharged from hospital.

The local associations, many of whom work through branches in their area, co-operate with all other voluntary organisations who share their aims and many participate in and help with educational activities and local fund-raising efforts.

Through the work of the local associations the patient, his or her family, employer, colleagues, friends and neighbours are brought into an understanding relationship, helpful to the stay in hospital and, most important, the patients discharge and rehabilitation.

The national and local associations also play a major role in the education of the public on mental health.

Since its foundation the St Brendan's branch has been active in organising entertainments and other social activities for the patients. These activities included bringing groups of patients on holidays and outings, attending shows, organising games such as bowling, all of which were paid for out of funds raised by the branch.

In the course of their activities, the members of the branch identified a need for a recreational and social centre in the hospital for the use of the patients and their visitors. They launched a fund raising programme with a target of £30,000 for this purpose and approached the Board with a request for a matching contribution from the Board's funds. Parallel with this local development, the Mental Health Association of Ireland had been considering the desirability of establishing, on the campus of a mental hospital, a National Mental Health Resource Centre the purpose of which would be to help in the improvement of the quality of life for the in-patients of psychiatric hospitals, as well as providing facilities for out-patients and young people at risk within their nearby communities. The concept was that a multi-purpose National Pilot facility should provide for the following:



**Long-Stay Patients**

Improving the quality of life-style by the addition of better living facilities.

**Short-Stay Patients**

Rehabilitative, educational and guidance programmes for re integration into the community.

**Day Patients**

Recreation and social centre for patients who can be treated on a day attendance basis.

**Community Involvement**

Providing the environment for local association members and members of other interested organisations to establish relationships with patients and gain knowledge of rehabilitative programmes and techniques.

**National Pilot Resource Facility**

For psychiatric professionals and local Mental Health Association members to observe and assess the Centre's activities with a view to establishing similar centres in their own areas. Patients from other hospitals would also be trained there.

Following consultations with the local St Brendan's branch of the Association, it was agreed that, if possible, the local plan for a new facility at St Brendan's Hospital should be subsumed into the proposed National Pilot Resource Centre. The proposed new scheme far out-reached the original plan and immediately posed what appeared to be an insoluble problem in finding the funds to pay for it.

At this point the National Mental Health Association decided to apply jointly with its St Brendan's branch to the National Dairy Council with a view to having this project and other programmes proposed by the Mental Health Association of Ireland for development on a national basis (e.g. information, education, research) selected to benefit from the proceeds of the 1983 Milk Run being organised by the Council to take place next March.

Since 1979 when the National Dairy Council sponsored the first Milk Run it has raised over £700,000 for charity and it has become a major event in the national calendar.

The National Dairy Council responded generously to this request and, from among competing claims, has selected the Mental Health Association of Ireland as the charity to benefit from the proceeds of the 1983 run. The National Dairy Council has expressed as its aim that the 1983 Milk Run will have a powerful impact on the development of a modern community mental health care programme in Ireland.

Following these developments, I have been approached by the Mental Health Association, through its St Brendan's Hospital branch, to make available a site of 1 Vi to 2 acres at St Brendan's for the proposed National Mental Health Resource Centre, which would serve as a prototype for similar projects throughout the country. The Mental Health Association of Ireland has drawn up preliminary sketch plans for the proposed Centre and these will be available for inspection by the members of the Board at the monthly meeting in September.

While an accurate budget figure for the project is not yet available, it is estimated that the cost will be of the order of £350,000 to £400,000.

The question of how the proceeds of the Milk Run will be distributed among the different programmes proposed by the Mental Health Association of Ireland and the amount of any shortfall which may have to be bridged in relation to the St Brendan's project cannot be determined until the amount of the proceeds of the Milk Run are known. However, our Board has been asked for a commitment to contribute to any shortfall which might arise in the project.

In view of the importance of this development, I propose, if the members agree in principle at this stage, that a site at St Brendan's be made available for this project by way of licence and at a nominal rent, subject to compliance with the usual statutory requirements for the disposal of land and with the normal conditions to protect the Board's interests.

Ownership of the Centre, when completed, would be vested in the Association. If the project is agreed to in principle by the Board, matters relating to management etc will require further discussions in detail with the Association. The Board will be kept informed of progress."

Following a discussion to which Cllr Willoughby, Or Behan, Cllr Hynes and Dr Draper contributed, the following motion was proposed by Dr Behan, seconded by Cllr Hynes, and agreed.

'That the proposals outlined in Report No. 32/1982 be welcomed and adopted with the understanding that they do not exonerate the Department of Health from its obligation to provide and develop a comprehensive community based psychiatric service in the Eastern Health Board area.'

It was also agreed that the project should not interfere with the playing facilities at St Brendan's Hospital.

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#### CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence, which had been circulated, was noted:

- (i) Letter 5 Lunasa 1982 Reference A D 5/82 from the Department of Social Welfare regarding the National Fuel Scheme 1982/83.
- (ii) Letter 4 Lunasa 1982 Reference A117/252 from the Department of Health regarding the emergency telephone repair service.
- (iii) Letter 12 August 1982 from the Association of Health Boards of Ireland recommending that each health board urgently and actively tackle all aspects of prevention of illness, especially self induced illness, and encourage education of the population against overuse of and dependence on medication and drugs.
- (iv) Letter 18 August 1982 from Wicklow County Council advising the Board of the following resolution which had been adopted by the County Council at their meeting on 21 June 1982 "That the Council agree to offer whatever help is necessary and also to use whatever pressure it can to see that a general hospital is provided in the County."
- (v) Letter 25 Lunasa 1982 from the Department of Health enclosing a table showing a breakdown of the amounts approved for voluntary and joint Board hospitals and homes for the mentally handicapped in respect of services provided for eligible patients from the Eastern Health Board area for 1980, 1981 and 1982.

The meeting concluded at 8.15 pm.

CORRECT: P B Segrave  
Chief Executive Officer

CHAIRMAN



## **EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

**Minutes of proceedings of special meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in  
the Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital  
on Thursday 16 September 1982**

### **PRESENT**

**Mr N Andrews, TD  
Dr J D Behan  
Cllr L Belton  
Mrs B Bonar  
Dr M Butler  
Dr J Buttimer  
Cllr M Carroll  
Mrs D Clune  
Cllr E Doyle  
Cllr B J Durkan  
Mr P Finegan  
Ald A FitzGerald. TD  
Cllr M Freehill**

**Mr J Gahen  
Cllr Mrs A Glenn  
Cllr A Groome  
Cllr T Hand  
Dr R Hawkins  
Cllr P Hickey  
Cllr F Hynes  
Mr D Kane  
Dr P McCarthy  
Cllr H Reilly  
Cllr E Stagg  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr W C Willoughby**

### **APOLOGIES**

**Prof J S Doyle**

**Dr B Powell**

### **IN THE CHAIR**

**Cllr Mrs A Glenn**

**Cllr E Stagg**

### **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

**Mr P B Segrave  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr T Keyes  
Mr K J Hickey  
Mr J F Reynolds  
Mr L Kavanagh  
Mr P J Swords  
Prof I Browne  
Miss A Flanagan  
Mr C Mansfield  
Mr A O'Brien  
Mr M O'Connor**

**Mr K Ward  
Mr J Brennan  
Mr E Butler  
Miss M Kelly  
Miss M McGahern  
Dr L O'Se  
Dr V Barry  
Mr M Cummins  
Miss M Mulryan  
Mr J Leech  
Miss E Larkin**

132/82

## CHAIRMAN'S BUSMESS

- (i) The Chairman, on behalf of the members, welcomed Mrs Clune to her first meeting of the Board.

(ii) The Chairman informed the members that the meeting was the last which Cllr Hugh Reilly would attend. This was due to an arrangement with his colleagues on Dublin County Council. She paid tribute to him in respect of his work as a member of the Board and thanked him for his contribution to the Board's deliberations. Cllrs Hand, Stagg, Hickey, Sweeney, Carroll, Hynes, Groome and Mrs Bonar associated themselves with the remarks of the Chairman. The Chief Executive Officer, on behalf of the staff, associated himself with the tributes paid to Cllr Reilly.

133/ 82

REVISED ALLOCATION FOR NON-CAPITAL  
HEALTH EXPENDITURE 1982

The following Report No. 33/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"At our last meeting I circulated to the members the following letters from the Department of Health:

1. Letter dated 30 August 1982 stating that the level of net expenditure approved for our Board in April 1982 had been reduced by £1.46m.
2. Letter dated 30 August 1982 directing us to achieve a reduction in staff numbers of 2% (140) by 31 March 1983 and a further reduction of 3% (210) by the end of 1985.

The Department has asked us to review existing service levels and to determine where adjustments must be made to ensure that the reduced expenditure allocation now approved will not be exceeded. It also suggests that the measures taken should be such as would realise significantly increased savings in a full year.

The implications of the two statutory-based directives are two fold:

Firstly, we must realise an immediate further saving of £1.46m in 1982

Secondly, we must review our services to achieve a significant curtailment of costs in 1983. Some of the proposals which we are now making with regard to 1982 will have to be very carefully examined in order to determine their impact on 1983 costs.

The Board members will recall that, in notifying us of our original allocation, the Department of Health in letter dated 27 January 1982 requested us to "bear in mind the need to have special regard to priority areas of expenditure comprehended within the provision made for community care services, the mentally ill and the handicapped, the aged, maternity and children". In recent months the Minister for Health has stressed that these areas should continue to receive special attention.

These considerations pose a dilemma for our Board. Since we have no large acute general hospitals under our direct control we are obliged to make cuts mainly in those services which have been designated as priorities.

In an earlier report to the Board (No. 7/1982 attached) I set out our difficult situation and the impact of budget cuts on the weak fabric of many of our services.

The budget adopted by our Board in May required us to make savings of £ 1.68m. With the co-operation and commitment of our staff it appears that this target may be achieved on the basis outlined in my Report No. 12/1982 which was circulated with the Budget.

Further cuts cannot be achieved without making a significant impact on services in our area and. therefore, the urgent decisions facing our Board to achieve the required savings within the next two and a half months are difficult ones.

The Board's Management Team have considered the very limited options open to our Board and I am setting out these below for the consideration of the Board.

Scaling down of bed usage and out-patient attendances in Naas and St Columcille's	£ 100,000
Review of pre-admission assessment of long-stay patients	£100,000
Reduction of payments to extern agencies	£250,000
Cessation of "ad-hoc" Dental and Ophthalmic Schemes from 1 October 1982	£200,000
Elimination of all purchases of office requisities, furniture, crockery, hardware beds, clothing, etc	£260,000
Reduction in employment, substitutes and overtime	£350,000
Ambulance and transport savings	£200,000
	£1,460,000

At the Chairman's request the Chief Executive Officer outlined the current position for the members. He suggested that there were three areas for consideration by the Board:

- (i) The importance of trying to achieve savings in 1982 and thereby avoid the possibility of carrying forward a deficit to 1 983.
- (ii) The directive to achieve a reduction in staff number of 2 % (140) by 31 March 1983 and a further reduction of 3% (210) by the end of 1985.
- (iii) The impact on services and difficulties for our Board in the light of the predictions for 1983.

Following a lengthy discussion to which Cllrs Hynes, Willoughby, Stagg, Carroll, Ald FitzGerald, Dr Buttimer, Cllr Hickey, Cllr Durkan, Dr McCarthy, Mr Finegan, Dr Hawkins, Dr Behan, Cllrs Doyle, Freehill, Reilly, Hand, Mrs Bonar, Deputy Andrews and Dr Butler contributed and to which the Chief Executive Officer, the Programme Managers and the Finance Officer replied the Chairman (Councillor Emmet Stagg, Vice-Chairman, in the Chair) requested the Secretary to read the following four motions in the order in which they had been submitted:

- (i) Proposed by Cllr Stagg, seconded by Mr Finegan:  
"That the Eastern Health Board reject the Minister's proposal/order on reduction of staff and on cutback in finances and that the Board not c operate in any way with its implementation

- (ii) Proposed by Cllr Hickey, seconded by Deputy Andrews:  
"That the Chief Executive Officer's report be adopted"
- (iii) Proposed by Dr Behan:  
"That the Board implement the Minister's directive to achieve a £1.46m cutback in its allocation subject to:
- (1) The Board informing the Minister that it has received, with grave concern his directive to cutback its budget by a further £1.46m because of its adverse impact on the poorer and weaker sectors of the community and that the long term costly damage to future services by impairing necessary maintenance.
- (2) The Board informing the Minister that it disapproves of such ad hoc fire brigade approaches to economisation which the Board considers to be the inevitable result of a two-tier, imbalanced and uncoordinated health service which is intrinsically wasteful and unjust.
- (3) That the Board implement the cutbacks requested on condition that the Minister for Health
- (a) provides the information repeatedly sought by the Board to the utilisation of the Health Services capital allocation of £40 million in 1981 and £50 million in 1982 together with a statement of the policy formulation process by which projects are selected or rejected for development and subject to

(b) the Minister giving the commitment to the Board to eliminate waste and injustice in the health service by involving this Board meaningfully in the planning, development, co-ordination and running of an integrated balanced health service which places greater emphasis on prevention, primary and community care.

4. That the Minister be informed the Board considers this the only way that an effective, economical and equitable health service can be provided and that the Minister again be requested to show his commitment to achieving this objective by establishing a joint Health Board-Department of Health Committee to review the health service as requested by the Health Board in Minute 39/82 (f) of April 1982."

- (iv) Proposed by Cllr Freehill, seconded by Mr Finegan  
"That the Minister for Health be requested to allocate the £2m to the Eastern Health Board that was budgeted for the National Development Agency for 1982 and which has not been utilised by that Agency."

Motion (i) was put and carried, voting being as follows:

FOR - 10 Cllr Carroll, Cllr Doyle, Cllr Durkan.  
Mr Finegan. Cllr Freehill. Mr Gahan. Cllr Hand, Cllr Hynes. Cllr Reilly. Cllr Stagg.

AGAINST 9 Deputy Andrews, Dr Behan, Mrs Bonar, Dr Butler, Dr Buttimer, Mrs Clune, Cllr Groome, Cllr Hickey, Cllr Sweeney.

Motion (ii) was not put as the Chairman ruled that it was the equivalent to a direct negative to Motion (i)

Motion (iii) was declared dropped because it was not seconded.



Motion (iv) was put and carried, the voting being as follows:

FOR - 16 Mrs Bonar. Dr Butler, Dr Buttimer, Cllr Carroll, Cllr Doyle. Cllr Durkan. Mr Finegan. Cllr Freehill, Mr Gahan. Cllr Groome. Cllr Hand, Cllr Hickey, Cllr Hynes. Cllr Reilly. Cllr Stagg.

AGAINST 3

Deputy Andrews, Dr Behan, Mrs Clune

Dr Behan queried the legality of the procedural decisions made by the Chairman «• and stated that he would consider taking legal advice in the matter.

Having regard to the terms of the motion regarding finance, which had been carried. The Chief Executive Officer read Paragraph 7 of Department of Health letter 30 August 1982 (HSG 282/2) and Section 31 of the Health Act. 1970 for the information of members:

"31(1) A health board shall not, save with the Minister's consent, incur expenditure for any service or purpose within any period in excess of such sum as may be specified by the Minister in respect of that period.

(2) (a) The Chief Executive Officer of a health board shall not in the performance of his functions do anything which would incur expenditure by the board in contravention of this section.

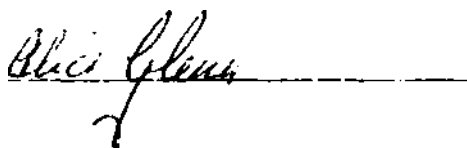
(b) If at any time the chief executive officer of a health board is of opinion that a decision or proposed decision of the board would incur expenditure by the board in contravention of this section, he shall so inform the board and the Minister."

It was then unanimously agreed that the two items remaining on the agenda should be adjourned to the October meeting of the Health Board.

The meeting concluded at 9.15 pm

CORRECT P B Segrave  
Chief Executive Officer

CHAIRMAN

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alicia Glenn", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "CHAIRMAN".



## **EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

**Minutes of proceedings of Special Meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in  
the Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital  
on Thursday, 7 October 1982 at 4.00 pm**

### **PRESENT**

**Mr N Andrews TD  
Dr J D Behan  
Cllr L Belton  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr D Browne  
Mrs D Clune  
Dr E Doyle  
Dr R J Draper  
Mr P Finegan  
Ald A FitzGerald TD  
Cllr M Freehill  
Mr J Gahan  
Cllr Mrs A Glenn**

**Cllr T Hand  
Dr R Hawkins  
Cllr P Hickey PC  
Cllr F Hynes  
Mr D Kane  
Dr D I Keane  
Dr P McCarthy  
Prof J McCormick  
Dr B Powell  
Cllr E Stagg  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr G Timmins TD**

### **APOLOGY**

**Dr J Buttimer**

### **IN THE CHAIR**

**Dr Mrs A Glenn**

### **OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE**

**Mr P B Segrave  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr T Keyes  
Mr K Hickey  
Mr G Brennan  
Mr J F Reynolds  
Mr L Kavanagh  
Mr J Doyle  
Mr P J Swords  
Mr M Hayden**

**Mr A O'Brien  
Mr M O'Connor  
Miss M McGahern  
Mr M Cummins  
Miss E Larkin  
Miss S Keegan  
Mr E Butler  
Miss M Kelly  
Mr K Ward**

134/82

**REVISED ALLOCATION FOR NON-CAPITAL  
EXPENDITURE FOR 1982**

The following report no. 34/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer and the Chairman was submitted:

The Chairmen and Chief Executive Officers of the Health Boards met the Minister for Health on 21 September, 1982 regarding health board finances. A copy of the joint press statement issued following the meeting is attached for information.

At the meeting the Minister outlined the current economic difficulties and said that all Departments of the State had been affected by the cuts in public expenditure which the Government felt were necessary.

In light of these decisions the Minister stated that there would be no further funds available for the health services in 1982.

Dr Woods said he wished to have a forthright and frank discussion on how the health boards' problems might be tackled and outlined proposals in this regard which had been made by various health agencies (including voluntary hospitals) throughout the country. These included:

- A. abolition of the ad-hoc dental and ophthalmic schemes
- B. transport services reduced and/or transport charges introduced
- C. closure of non-emergency hospital wards for specific periods
- D. a review of the following:
  - 1. on-call and weekend premiums for staff, sick and annual leave substitutes
  - 2. overtime - main areas of expenditure e.g. non-consultant hospital doctors, psychiatric nurses, maintenance staff
  - 3. Substitutes and cost of maternity leave
  - 4. payment to students, including student nurses, at a reduced rate
  - 5. the non-filling of staff vacancies
  - 6. staff canteen charges

These options were discussed at some length.

The Chairmen expressed their understanding of the current difficulties and outlined some steps which they felt the Minister and the Department of Health could take in the circumstances. These proposals were considered with a view to protecting those most in need of services and at the same time involving some contribution or less benefit to those who could afford this.

The measures proposed included:

- A. a review of the drugs refund scheme
- B. charges for hospital in-patient services and some out-patient attendances
- C. the medical card scheme to operate as heretofore, i.e. decisions on eligibility to be based on means only
- D. a review of the role of health boards in the administration of some social welfare schemes particularly the supplementary welfare scheme.

The Minister undertook to give full consideration to these proposals. The serious position of our Board was set out for the Minister. While appreciating the efforts of our Board and our staff and sympathising with the very difficult problems facing us the Minister reiterated that in light of the current national economic situation no further funds could be made available for 1982.

The Minister stressed that the national economic difficulties were not likely to be eased quickly. It appeared now that 1983 would also be a very difficult year. There could, therefore, be no question of a carry over of deficits to next year.

The Board's management team has again looked at the problems facing us in the light of the following considerations:

1. We will be unable to keep within the current allocation for 1982 unless we effect savings.
2. There is very little time left (3 months) within which to effect savings.
3. The prospects for 1983 are, at best, poor.
4. To carry forward a deficit into 1983 is not an option. It would very seriously add to our problems next year. As the major part of our services is provided through our staff, employment is the area which could be the hardest hit.

The most practical measures open to our Board remain those as outlined in report no. 33/1982 viz:

Scaling-down of bed usage and out-patient attendances at Naas and St Columcille's	£100,000
Review of pre-admission assessment of long-stay patients	£100,000
Reduction of payments to extern agencies	£ 250,000
Cessation of 'ad-hoc' Dental and Ophthalmic Schemes	£200,000
Elimination of all purchases of office requisites, furniture, crockery, hardware, beds, clothing etc.	£260,000
Reduction in employment, substitutes and overtime	£350,000
Ambulance and transport savings	<u>£200,000</u>
	<u>£1,460,000</u>

As stated at our Special Meeting on 16 September every effort will be made to ensure that the impact of these cuts in our services will be felt least by those most in need of services.

In light of all of the above considerations, and the information available to us at this time, we strongly recommend to the Board that it adopts the measures proposed.

Following a lengthy discussion to which the Chairman, Clrs Hynes, Hickey, Stagg, Fieelti£, Sweeney, Hand, Timmins, Deputy Andrews, Drs Behan, Kcane, Hawkins, McCarthy, Mrs Bonar, Prof McCormick, and Mr Gahan contributed and to which the Chief Executive Officer replied, the Chairman requested the Secretary to read the following motions in the order in which they had been submitted:

- (i) Proposed by Clr Stagg, seconded by Clr Freehill:

"That the Eastern Health Board refuse to cut its services which are delivered to the very poor in our society. That no charge for the services provided by the Eastern Health Board be introduced. That no cuts in staff numbers be undertaken amongst Eastern Health Board staff. That the Eastern Health Board implement better house-keeping practices to effect savings."

(ii) Proposed by Dr Behan, seconded by Dr Hawkins:

"That the Board accept the Minister's request to implement a further £1.46m in cut backs on condition that the Minister for Health

(a) involves the health board fully in the planning, development, co-ordination and running of the entire health service in its area

(b) that the Minister instruct his Department to provide the information requested by this Board recently to account for capital and revenue expenditure in the health services

(c) that the Board achieve the proposed reduction in staffing levels by non-filling of occasional vacancies without letting current staff go and provided that

(d) the Minister postpone the purchase of unnecessary equipment and postpone the carrying out of unnecessary minor capital works throughout the health service."

(iii) Proposed by Mr Finegan, seconded by Clr Doyle:

"That this Board adopts the measures proposed in an effort to effect the cuts in our services subject to the following amendment -

'That this Board shall not introduce into St Columcille's and Naas General Hospital closure of beds or five day wards.' "

Motion (i) was put and defeated, voting being as follows -

FOR 11 Clr Belton, Mrs Bonar, Clr Browne, Clr Doyle, Mr Finegan, Ald FitzGerald, Clr Freehill, Mr Gahan, Clr Hand, Clr Hynes and Clr Stagg.

AGAINST 14 - Deputy Andrews, Dr Behan, Mrs Clune, Prof Doyle, Dr Draper, Clr Mrs Glenn, Dr Hawkins, Clr Hickey, Mr Kane, Dr Keane, Dr McCarthy, Prof McCormick, Clr Sweeney, Dep. Timmins.

Motion (ii) was put and defeated, voting being as follows -

FOR 6 - Dr Behan, Mrs Bonar, Clr Mrs Glenn, Dr Hawkins, Mr Kane, Dr McCarthy.

AGAINST 19 - Deputy Andrews, Clr Belton, Clr Browne, Mrs Clune, Clr Doyle, Prof Doyle, Dr Draper, Mr Finegan, Ald FitzGerald, Clr Freehill, Mr Gahan, Clr Hand, Clr Hickey, Clr Hynes, Dr Keane, Prof McCormick, Clr Stagg, Clr Sweeney, Dep. Timmins.

Dr Powell abstained.

Motion (iii) was put and carried, voting being as follows -

FOR 21 - Deputy Andrews, Dr Behan, Clr Belton, Mrs Bonar, Clr Browne, Clr Doyle, Prof Doyle, Mr Finegan, Ald FitzGerald, Clr Freehill, Mr Gahan, Clr Hand, Dr Hawkins, Clr Hickey, Clr Hynes, Mr Kane, Dr Keane, Dr McCarthy, Clr Stagg, Or Sweeney, Dep Timmins.

AGAINST 2 - Mrs Clune, Dr Draper

Clr Mrs Glenn, Prof McCormick, and Dr Powell abstained.

The meeting concluded at 5.45 pm

CORRECT

P B Segrave  
Chief Executive Officer

Chairman





## EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of proceedings of Monthly Meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in  
the Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital  
on Thursday, 7 October 1982 at 6.30 pm

### PRESENT

Mr N Andrews TD  
Ald B Ahern TD  
Dr J D Behan  
Clr L Belton  
Mrs B Bonar  
Dr M Butler  
Clr M Carroll  
Mrs D Clune  
Clr E Doyle  
Prof J S Doyle  
Dr R J Draper  
Mr P Finegan  
Ald A Fitzgerald TD  
Clr M Freehill  
Mr J Gahan

Clr Mrs A Glenn  
Clr A Groome  
Clr THand  
Dr R Hawkins  
Clr P Hickey PC  
Clr F Hynes  
Mr D Kane  
Dr D I Keane  
Dr P McCarthy  
Prof J McCormick  
Dr B Powell  
Clr E Stagg  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Clr G Timmins TD

### APOLOGY

Dr J Buttimer

### IN THE CHAIR

Clr Mrs A Glenn

### OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr P B Segrave  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr T Keyes  
Mr K Hickey  
Mr J F Reynolds  
Mr L Kavanagh  
Mr G Brennan  
Prof B O'Donnell  
Mr C Mansfield  
Miss M McGahern  
Mr R Keane

Miss M Kelly  
Mr P J Swords  
Mr J Doyle  
Mr A O'Brien  
Mr M O'Connor  
Mr M Cummins  
Miss E Larkin  
Miss S Keegan  
Dr G Gorman  
Dr L O'Se  
Dr A O'Driscoll

135/82

**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

The Chairman introduced Mr Gerry Brennan who had taken up duty as Technical Services Officer on 1 October 1982 and welcomed him to his first meeting of the Board.

136/82

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF**

- (a) MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 2 SEPTEMBER 1982, and
- (b) SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 16 SEPTEMBER 1982

The minutes having been circulated were confirmed, as amended, on a proposal by Or Sweeney, seconded by Dr McCarthy.

137/82

**QUESTIONS**

On a proposal by Cllr Carroll, seconded by Prof Doyle, it was agreed that the questions lodged should be answered.

Dr Behan agreed to withdraw the question which he had tabled.

- (i) Cllr. Sweeney

"That the Chief Executive Officer tell this Board how many dispensaries or health centres in the Wicklow and Kildare areas of the Board are used by general practitioners, what facilities are provided and how much each general practitioner contributes to the Board for the use of the particular premises and the facilities therein."

**Reply**

"The Dept of Health circular on the re-organisation of the general medical service includes the following provisions regarding the use of health centres by general practitioners:

**'Practice premises - use of official premises**

Participating doctors may be offered facilities to practise in existing health centres, dispensaries or other health board accommodation. Where a permanent district medical officer occupies a dispensary residence he will be allowed to continue in occupation as long as he participates in the new service in the area concerned. Where a dispensary and residence are sited together only the doctor occupying the residence will have a right to use that dispensary.

No charge will be made to a dispensary doctor with automatic right of participation using a health centre, dispensary or other health board premises. An appropriate negotiated contribution towards running expenses will be made by other practitioners availing of such facilities but they would be provided free of charge for approved partnerships or group practices..."

The number of health centres used by general practitioners in Counties Wicklow and Kildare is as follows:

Twenty-three health centres in the Co Wicklow area are used by five former district medical officers and four group practices/partnerships

who are not chargeable, and five general practitioners who are chargeable.

Twenty health centres in the Co Kildare area are used by eight former district medical officers who are not chargeable and eight general practitioners who are chargeable.

The normal facilities provided during clinic sessions are, use of surgery, waiting area, toilets, telephones, heat and light; premises are cleaned.

Charges to non-exempted practitioners are as follows:

For sessions morning or afternoon on any weekday ... £2 per session

The following additional charges are made where appropriate: For use of telephone where the

doctor has two or more sessions per week.....£ 1 per week

For use of telephone where the

doctor has three or more sessions per week ..... £2 per week

Where a receptionist is on duty in the

health centre: [there will be very few of these).....£3 per week

The Board's Law Agent is at present preparing a revised form of agreement to be completed by each general practitioner using the Board's health centres.

(ii) Cllr. Sweeney

"That the CEO tell the Board when it is proposed to proceed with the building of a new health centre at Blessington."

Reply

"Our Board in February 1982 approved the sale of the dispensary residence at Blessington with the proviso that the proceeds of the sale would be used to build a health centre there. The sanction of the Minister for Health is awaited.

In June 1980 our Board submitted a plan, cost plan and working drawings to the Department of Health for approval to proceed to the next stage of planning which would be the preparation of the bill of quantities and seeking of tenders. The approval of the Department of Health is awaited.

138/82

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Chief Executive Officer read the following report which was agreed by the Board:

(i) "St Columcille's Hospital

A meeting of the visiting committee for St Columcille's Hospital has been convened by the Chairman, Or John Sweeney, for 14 October 1982 at 3 pm to review the up-to-date position regarding staffing at consultant level and related matters. I expect that, following that meeting, we will be in a position to have a report available for formal consideration by the Board.

(ii) **Naas Hospital**

I am pleased to inform the Board that the following permanent consultant appointments have recently been publicly advertised through the Local Appointments Commission:

1 General Surgeon; 1 General Physician; 1 Anaesthetist; 1 Radiologist.

These appointments will replace existing long standing temporary arrangements and represent a significant step forward in putting the services at Naas Hospital on a sound footing in accordance with the decision to develop it as a general hospital

Further consultant appointments, as approved by Comhairle na nOspideal, will be made in line with such developments.

No further progress has been made with regard to the establishment of a project team since the terms of the Board's decision at the August meeting (minute 106/82) were conveyed to the Minister for Health."

Following a brief discussion on the project team for Naas Hospital, to which Cllrs Stagg and Groome contributed and to which Mr Hickey, Programme Manager, General Hospital Care, replied, the following motion was proposed by Cllr Stagg, seconded by Cllr Groome, and

"That the procedures outlined by Mr Hickey for the setting up of a Project Team for Naas Hospital be adopted and that it be arranged that the hospital visiting committee meet on a regular basis in Naas to receive reports from the Project Team."

139/82

**REQUEST FROM ST JAMES'S HOSPITAL BOARD FOR  
APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE TO PROPOSED PRIVATE HOSPITAL**

The following letter dated 29 September 1982 from the Chief Executive Officer, St James's Hospital, which had been circulated, was considered

"It is the policy of the St James's Board that facilities should be provided to enable the consultant medical staff to undertake private practice at the hospital.

The Hospital Board has had under examination the question of how these facilities can be provided and at its meeting on September 24 it considered the enclosed report which sets out the options open to the Board in this regard.

The Board decided to approve in principle the provision of an independent free standing facility in the grounds of St James's Hospital in accordance with the terms of the enclosed motion.

In this connection I would draw your attention to the reference in the motion and in the report to the need for further studies to be carried out before substantive and final decisions on the matter can be taken. One of the most important studies will be on a detailed appraisal of the impact of the proposed private hospital at the new St James's Hospital.

Because such further studies would require a considerable amount of time and expense by both the Hospital Board and any independent contractors, it is necessary to take a decision at this stage as to whether the principle of private practice in such a facility is acceptable to the Hospital Board and to the Eastern Health Board as the "superior landlord".

At the request of the St James's Board I am writing to formally request the Eastern Health Board to indicate whether in principle it would be prepared to sub-lease a portion of the site (to be identified) for this purpose."

**TERMS OF MOTION PUT TO AND AGREED BY THE BOARD OF ST JAMES'S HOSPITAL AT ITS MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 24, 1982**

That:

St James's Hospital Board agrees in principle to the erection on the site of a free-standing hospital unit of the order suggested in which fee-paying patients will receive private attention on the understanding that it is accepted by all concerned:

1. that the primary objective and function of the new St James's Hospital is the provision for eligible patients without charge of a comprehensive efficient medical, surgical and related hospital service within the scope of the statutory provisions under which these services are provided;
2. that after all the requirements of the foregoing have been met, provision may then be made for facilities for consultants to engage in private practice either within the new St James's Hospital and/or in any separate special unit which may be erected on the site by the Hospital Board itself and/or by any private consortium subject to the approval of the St James's Hospital Board, the Eastern Health Board and the Minister for Health, and
3. that implicit in this is the expectation that further studies will be necessary leading to presentation of a substantive proposal to erect a free-standing facility which, if it appears to be adverse in its impact upon the new St James's Hospital and its services to the public, can expect to be rejected and which, if it is not adverse and is otherwise acceptable, can expect to be approved by the Hospital Board,

and accordingly I propose the adoption of the report before the Board.

Following a lengthy discussion to which Drs Behan, Powell, McCarthy, Butler, Draper and Keane, and Cirs Stagg, Freehill and Hynes, Prof McCormick, Mr Finegan, Ald Ahern, Ald FitzGerald and Prof Doyle contributed, and to which Mr Hickey, Programme Manager, General Hospital Care, replied. It was agreed that consideration of the request from St James's Hospital should be deferred until the November meeting of the Board. The members requested the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a report for consideration in conjunction with the request from St James's Hospital.

140/82

## PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEE

The report of the Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held in Area 2 (Clonskeagh) on 18 August 1982, on a proposal by Clr Freehill, seconded by Clr Sweeney, was noted.

Clr Freehill drew the attention of the members to the Committee's agreement that the offer of a site in Fenian Street from Dublin Corporation should be pursued and that the building of a new health centre in the Pearse Street area should be a priority.

Clr Stagg complimented the Director of Community Care and his team on the way in which the Community Care area had been organised into five districts and asked that the report which the Director had circulated at the Visiting Committee meeting should be sent to each member of the Board.

141/82

## PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES

The reports of the following Local Committee meetings, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:

(i) Wicklow Local Committee meeting held on 16 July 1982

On a proposal by Or Sweeney, seconded by Prof Doyle, the report was noted.

Clr Sweeney referred to the request that Wicklow representatives should be allowed to attend meetings or the Kildare Local Committee as observers. Clr Stagg stated that representatives from Wicklow would be welcome at meetings of the Kildare Local Committee. The Chief Executive Officer was asked to examine the proposal to see how it might be implemented.

(ii) Kildare Local Committee Meeting held on 9 September 1982.

On a proposal by Clr Stagg, seconded by Clr Hynes, the report was noted,

(iii) Dublin County Local Committee meeting held on 9 September 1982.

On a proposal by Clr Carroll, seconded by Clr Sweeney, the report was noted.

(iv) Dun Laoghaire Local Committee meeting held on 14 September 1982. On a proposal by Or Carroll, seconded by Clr Freehill, the report was noted.

Clr Freehill referred to the Committee's request that reports of the Visiting Committee to St Columcille's Hospital should be sent to the Local Committee when they had been presented to the Health Board. The Chief Executive Officer stated that the Committee's request deserved careful consideration.

Clr Sweeney stated that he was not in favour of acceding to the request and that members of the Dun Laoghaire Local Committee who are members of the Health Board can attend meetings of the Visiting Committee at St Columcille's Hospital.

142/82

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

The following motion was proposed by Mrs Bonar:

- (a) "That this Board expresses its concern at the lack of consultation between the Health Education Bureau and the Eastern Health Board regarding the contents of the publication The Book of the Child which is at present being distributed through the Health Boards."
- (b) "That in future all publications from the Health Education Bureau for distribution to the public through the Health Boards be submitted to the Board beforehand for its approval."

The motion was seconded by Prof Doyle and, following a discussion to which Mrs Bonar, Clr Stagg, Prof Doyle, Clr Freehill, Dr Behan, Clr Mrs Glenn and Dr Butler contributed, was agreed.

143/82

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence, which had been circulated, was noted:

- (i) Letter 14 September 1982 from Dublin Corporation regarding the provision of facilities for slow learners (children) at the new health centre at Wellmount Park, Finglas.
- (ii) Letter 23 September 1982 from the Department of Health regarding the Board's representation on the Beaumont Hospital Board.

144/82

**PROPOSED NATIONAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

The documentation relating to the proposal National Community Development Agency, which had been circulated for the special meeting of the Board held on 16 September 1982 was noted.

145/82

**STATEMENT ISSUED BY MINISTER FOR HEALTH IN RELATION TO CASES OF NON-ACCIDENTAL INJURY TO CHILDREN**

This matter was considered by the Board in committee. Mrs Bonar and Dr Behan expressed the members' appreciation of the way in which the Board's staff were dealing with the very difficult problems presented to them in relation to cases of non-accidental injury to children.

Prof Doyle referred to the draft revised guidelines regarding non-accidental injury to children which had been received from the Department of Health and which had been circulated to the members and proposed that they be noted.

The Chief Executive Officer stated that he appreciated the members' remarks regarding the Board's staff who were dealing with very complex human problems on a regular basis, and who would be reassured by the confidence expressed by the members in the manner in which they performed their duties.

The Chief Executive Officer said that it was important to review such serious incidents and to see what could be learned from them.

He said that he was concerned by recent publicity which tended to place our Board and its officers in the position of guardian of all of the children in our area and therefore in some way responsible for those who might become at risk in the community.

Non-accidental injury to children was a serious problem for our society generally.

The meeting concluded at 8.30 pm.

**CORRECT**

**P B Segrave  
Chief Executive Officer**

**Chairman**



## EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of proceedings of Monthly Meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in  
the Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital  
on Thursday, 4 November 1982 at 6.00 pm

### PRESENT

Dr J D Behan  
Cllr L Belton  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr M Carroll  
Mrs D Clune  
Dr R J Draper  
Cllr Mrs E Fitzgerald  
Cllr M Freehill  
Mr J Gahan  
Cllr Mrs A Glenn  
Cllr A Groome

Cllr T Hand  
Dr R Hawkins  
Cllr P Hickey  
Cllr F Hynes  
Mr D Kane  
Dr D I Keane  
Prof J McCormick  
Dr B Powell  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr W C Willoughby

### APOLOGIES

Dr J Buttimer  
Mr P Finegan

Prof J S Doyle

### IN THE CHAIR

Cllr Mrs A Glenn

### OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr P B Segrave  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr T Keyes  
Mr K Hickey  
Mr L Kavanagh  
Mr G Brennan  
Prof B O'Donnell  
Mr PJ Swords  
Prof I Browne  
Mr T Mahon  
Miss M Kelly  
Mr J Leech

Mr K Ward  
Mr F J McCullough  
Miss A Flanagan  
Mr R Keane  
Mr C Mansfield  
Mr M O'Connor  
Mr C McQuaide  
Mr M Cummins  
Mrs B Travers  
Miss S Keegan

**146/82 CONDOLENCE**

The Chairman informed the members of the recent death of Dr Tony Rowland, son of Dr Paddy Rowland. Senior Area Medical Officer. Carnegie Clinic, Lord Edward Street. The members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the deceased.

147/82

**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

The Chairman advised the members of the illness of Board member Or Jane Buttimer. The members asked that good wishes for a speedy recovery be conveyed to her.

148/82

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING AND MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 7 OCTOBER 1982**

The minutes, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Sweeney.

Mrs Bonar requested that it be recorded that she had voted against motion no. (i) which had been defeated at the special meeting held on 7 October 1982.

Mr Gahan requested that it be noted that he wished to disassociate himself from motion no. (iii) which had been carried at the special meeting held on 7 October 1982.

Cllr Sweeney referred to the reply to the question regarding the use by general practitioners of facilities in the Board's health centres and the amounts they contribute for these. Following a discussion to which Dr Hawkins and Cllr Hynes contributed, Mr Donohue, Programme Manager, Community Care Service, stated that he was preparing a report for the Board regarding increases in the charges.

**149/82 QUESTION**

On a proposal by Cllr Carroll, seconded by Cllr Hickey, it was agreed that the question lodged should be answered.

Mr P Finegan

"That this Board provide a first aid centre at Tallaght Health Centre with a cardiac ambulance available at the centre from 9 am to 9 pm subject to the local general practitioners providing the medical services from 9 am to 9 pm on a voluntary basis. Could the CEO look at the consideration and report on same."

**REPLY**

This question appears to cover two types of service:

- A a first aid centre
- B a cardiac ambulance service

- A The established manner in which casualty services are organised is through the accident and emergency departments of general hospitals where various staffing and back-up services such as x-ray are available. A 24-hour ambulance service operated on behalf of the Board by the Dublin Fire Brigade was initiated from the new fire station at Beigard Road, Tallaght earlier this year. This service is available to respond to any emergency and to convey casualties to the nearest hospital on call. Persons with minor injuries are expected to go to their general practitioner who will only refer them to the hospital accident and emergency department if he considers it necessary.

Our Board at their meeting in January 1982 (minute 9/82 refers) agreed a motion that in advance of the provision of the new Tallaght Hospital steps should be taken to establish out-patient clinics at a suitable location in Tallaght. This is receiving on-going attention by a small group representative of the Department of Health, Meath/Adelaide Hospitals and of our Board. Amongst the possible locations being considered is the Tallaght Health Centre, it must be emphasised that any such clinics, including surgical out-patients, would not be geared to provide accident and emergency services. However, in the context of the examination of the problems of the area, the opportunity could be taken to consult with local general practitioners regarding the organisation of an appropriate division of response as between themselves and the hospital accident and emergency departments for the treatment of injuries, some of which might only be of a minor nature.

- B. The cardiac ambulance service provided directly by this Board involves the use of specially trained personnel and specially equipped ambulances. This service is at present organised in conjunction with the Board's ambulance service based at St James's and St Columcille's Hospitals respectively. The service has been established on a Pilot basis only and is being kept under constant review by a committee representative of the Board, cardiologists attached to Dublin City Hospitals and of the Department of Health. The Tallaght area is covered by the cardiac ambulance service from the St James's Hospital base. It would not be feasible or appropriate at this time to locate a cardiac ambulance outside of the two existing centres.

150/82

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Chief Executive Officer read the following report, which was agreed by the Board:

- (i) "Kilbarrack Temporary Health Centre - fire damage  
During the October Bank Holiday weekend severe malicious fire damage was caused to a section of the temporary fabricated health centre located beside Greendale Community School, Kilbarrack. The extent of the damage was such that it necessitated that the building be vacated and the staff and services re-located in other health centres in the area - Coolock, Edenmore and Baldoyle. On 1 November, 1982 further fire damage was caused, and it is now likely that the building will have to be demolished. The temporary arrangements for the relocation of services and staff will continue until the new health centre on Foxfield Crescent is ready for occupation. The building is expected to be completed at the end of November 1982."

## (ii) "Development of Naas Hospital - Project Team

I am pleased to inform the Board that following receipt of a letter from the Department of Health this week nominating the Minister's representatives for the project team, it will now be possible to proceed with the detailed planning process for the development of Naas Hospital."

151/82

**ORGANISATION OF GENERAL HOSPITAL SERVICES FOR SOUTH  
EAST DUBLIN AND EAST WICKLOW**

The following report no. 35/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

1. The Minister for Health in a public statement on 30 April 1982 accepted in principle the report of the Working Group set up to consider the above subject, and asked that the consultations necessary to implement the recommendations in the report should proceed as quickly as possible.
2. As previously agreed by our Board at their special meeting on 17 September 1981, immediate arrangements were made following the Minister's announcement to initiate detailed discussions between representatives of our Board and of St Vincent's Hospital regarding the urgent requirement identified by the Working Group of having the consultant staffing at St Columcille's Hospital developed on the basis of joint appointments as necessary between St Columcille's and St Vincent's (other than for obstetrics and neo-natology). Such appointments would be on a permanent basis.
3. The discussions between the representatives of our Board and of St Vincent's Hospital covered in detail the manner in which consultant appointments might be structured. Final approval to any such proposals would, of course, be a matter for Comhairle na nOspideal.

As anticipated in my previous report to the special meeting of our Board referred to above, the discussions also covered the question of a new board to administer St Columcille's Hospital and the respective levels of representation which might be afforded to the different interests named in the Working Group's report. Final decisions regarding the establishment and constitution of any such board are the function of the Minister for Health under the Health (Corporate Bodies) Act 1961.

4. When the proposed joint appointments between St Columcille's Hospital and St Vincent's Hospital had been discussed in detail and the question of a new Board to administer St Columcille's Hospital had been raised, it was decided to consult with the authorities of St Michael's Hospital, Dun Laoghaire in this regard since the report of the Working Group also recommended that the latter hospital should be represented on any new Board. It was also felt appropriate at this stage to take the opportunity of setting out the principles, along the lines recommended by the Working Group which would underlie future close relationships between St Vincent's, St Columcille's and St Michael's Hospitals in the provision of an integrated general hospital service for the south east Dublin/East Wicklow area.
5. The draft proposals attached to this report have now been circulated for the formal consideration of our Board and of the Boards of St Vincent's Hospital and St Michael's Hospital respectively.

The proposals are in three parts:

- a statement of the principles underlying the proposed close working relationships and integrated approach to the provision of general hospital services for the south east Dublin/east Wicklow area by St Vincent's, St Columcille's and St Michael's Hospitals. This is along the lines set out by the Working Group;

detailed proposals in relation to the development of consultant medical staffing at St Columcille's on the basis of joint appointments with St Vincent's Hospital;

- outline operational policies in relation to accident and emergency services, and of a general nature as between the three hospitals. Details of membership proposed for a new board to administer St Columcille's Hospital. This includes representatives of our Board, St Vincent's Hospital, some representation from St Michael's Hospital and some local representation, as recommended by the Working Group.

It is necessary to make clear that the discussions on proposed consultant medical staffing did not include St Michael's Hospital but related to St Columcille's and St Vincent's Hospitals only. Recommendations in that section of the document (pages 2-4 incl.) are those made by a 'group' comprising three representatives of our Board and three representatives of St Vincent's Hospital respectively. St Michael's Hospital has already developed some links with St Vincent's Hospital and the proposals now being put forward for consideration are not intended to preclude further developments considered necessary by that hospital. Indeed the proposals being put forward should facilitate the development of links as appropriate between all three hospitals.

6. It is undoubtedly true that the achievement of close working relationships, joint medical staffing arrangements, and integrated operational policies between the three hospitals, aimed at achieving the best and most effective level of general hospital services for the area, will not come about without the introduction of appropriate structures for administration and co-ordination along the lines recommended by the Working Group. These are on two levels:
  - a new board for St Columcille's Hospital which would include representatives of the Eastern Health Board and St Vincent's Hospital, some representation from St Michael's Hospital and some local representation. Representatives from the new board for St Columcille's to be invited to join the management boards of both St Vincent's and St Michael's Hospital - it is understood that the management boards of the latter two hospitals have already agreed in principle to such a development;
  - a special advisory co-ordinating body representative of the authorities of St Vincent's, St Michael's and St Columcille's Hospital together with representatives of local general practitioners, directors of community care. University College, Dublin and other hospitals serving the area.
7. The most urgent requirement at this stage is that consultant medical staffing at St Columcille's Hospital should be placed on a firm and permanent basis and developed to the appropriate level.

It is clear that this will not come about unless the appropriate changes in the administrative structures, particularly the proposed new management board, are also brought into effect.

The draft proposals were considered by the no. 1 Visiting Committee at meeting on 14 October and the outcome was a majority decision to recommend their acceptance to the board. The Committee recommended that there should be two rather than one staff representatives from St Columcille's nominated to the new board.

If the board should accept this recommendation, and the proposals should also be accepted by the board of St Vincent's and by the board of St Michael's Hospital insofar as they relate to that hospital, then

- immediate arrangements can be made to initiate the necessary applications to Comhairle na nOspideal for approval to the proposed consultant medical staff appointments for St Columcille's in association with St Vincent's.

In this regard it is noted from recent correspondence approving of continuation of temporary appointments at St Columcille's, Comhairle na nOspideal reiterated its concern at the continuation of temporary consultant arrangements and urged our Board as a matter of urgency to submit proposals for permanent staffing in the light of the recommendations in the report of the Working Group;

- immediate application will be made to the Minister for Health for the setting up of the proposed new board for St Columcille's Hospital under the Hearsh (Corporate Bodies) Act 1961.

The two steps outlined in paragraph 8 are the priority actions that are first required. Following this a number of further matters would need to be pursued:

- the arrangements necessary for the development of the obstetrics and neo-natal service at St Columcille's by the provision of proper consultant staffed services;
- the arrangements necessary for the continuation of interim arrangements for paediatric services at St Columcille's Hospital pending urgent attention being given to the development of permanent services for the area;
- the formalization of arrangements for representation from the board of St Columcille's Hospital on the management boards of St Vincent's and St Michael's Hospitals respectively;
- the setting up of the proposed special advisory co-ordinating body. In

summary

- the objective of the proposals is to achieve the best and most efficient standard of general hospital services for the area;
- the most urgent requirement is the development and placing of consultant medical staffing at St Columcille's Hospital on a proper footing. Essential to the achievement of this requirement is the setting up of the new board proposed for St Columcille's, followed by the other administration and co-ordination arrangements;

- positive decisions on the foregoing will clear the way for further action as outlined in paragraphs 8 and 9 above.

It is difficult to see any other viable alternative to the development of a balanced and effective level of services for the area, or any other means of putting the consultant medical staffing at St Columcille's on a proper footing. For these reasons I concur with the recommendations of the no. 1 Visiting Committee to our Board.

**PROPOSALS FOR CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIPS  
AND INTEGRATED APPROACH TO PROVISION OF  
GENERAL HOSPITAL SERVICES BY THREE HOSPITALS  
SERVING SOUTH EAST DUBLIN, EAST WICKLOW AREA**

The principles underlying the proposals set out in this document are:

1. \* the development and achievement of the highest possible standard of general hospital services for the population of south east Dublin City and County, Dun Laoghaire and the eastern portion of County Wicklow;
  - \* the maximum utilisation of existing resources and of their capacity for development;
  - \* the achievement of close working relationships between St Vincent's Hospital, St Columcille's Hospital and St Michael's Hospital which would complement each other in the provision of a comprehensive range of services and avoidance of any unnecessary duplication.
2. In order to implement the above, the achievement of joint Departments in all medical branches will be necessary. The level of assignment and commitment of consultants would vary with the service requirements and may even be honorary. This would enable all consultants to participate in academic and clinical review activities.
3. Each hospital will be the contract holding body in accordance with the respective level of commitment of each individual consultant.
4. There will be a common selection of NCHDs. Rotation of junior medical staff will take place where possible and appropriate.
5. All three hospitals will have a positive role in medical education at undergraduate as well as post graduate levels.
6. All three hospitals will co-operate fully in nurse education and in particular in the implementation of EEC directives. Where possible there will be co-operation in para-medical services and education.
7. The Ethical Code particular to each hospital will be preserved.
8. The harmonisation of systems including records will be achieved as soon as possible.

**PROPOSALS IN RELATION TO ST COLUMCILLE'S/ST VINCENT'S**

**(1) Surgeons**

- (a) One whole-time general surgeon to St Columcille's with an honorary appointment to St Vincent's. The appointee to be Chief of the Department of Surgery at St Columcille's.

(b) One 7/11ths surgeon to St Columcille's with 4/11ths commitment to St Vincent's with a particular interest eg vascular surgery.

(c) 2/1 lths commitment to St Columcille's from the appointment now being processed for St Vincent's.

**(2) Physicians**

(a) St Columcille's will require the services of two general physicians. One appointment to be made on a full-time basis immediately with an honorary appointment to St Vincent's. The appointee to be Head of the Department of Medicine at St Columcille's.

(b) In view of the substantial geriatric problem in the area, the Group recommends the immediate appointment of a full-time physician in Geriatric Medicine. In view also of the resources available at St Columcille's this should be on a 9/11ths appointment with 2/11ths to St Vincent's.

(c) St Vincent's will make available a range of specialities to St Columcille's including limited consultancy for in-patients and OPD clinics to be developed as appropriate at St Columcille's and at extern centres.

**Urology**

St Columcille's would require 2/11ths to 3/11ths of a consultant which would come from the Department of Urology for south east Dublin and east Wicklow at St Vincent's. These sessions would be OPD/Diagnostic.

**Orthopaedics**

St Columcille's would require 4/5 sessions for acute orthopaedics. In the immediate future it requires a nominated orthopaedic consultant for consultations. The Group also supports the appointment of a second orthopaedic registrar in the area on the assumption that this will increase the consultant facilities to St Columcille's. The Group will also support every effort to provide for a further consultant appointment for south east Dublin/east Wicklow.

**ENT**

St Columcille's will require 2 to 3 sessions from the regional unit at St Vincent's - one session - operative, one session - OPD, one session -consultation.

**Ophthalmic**

The needs of St Columcille's would best be met by the appointment of a medical ophthalmologist - there would be no operation sessions in St Columcille's. St Vincent's would be expected to provide surgical facilities on referral from St Columcille's.

**Paediatrics**

The Group views with concern the lack of consultant paediatric services for the area of south east Dublin and east Wicklow. It recommends the appointment of 2 consultant paediatricians. In view of the present distribution of paediatric beds available in the area it is recommended that the appointees should cover St Anthony's, Herbert Avenue, St Columcille's, St Michael's, and be linked to one of the major paediatric hospitals.



#### **Anaesthetics**

It is recommended that St Columciile's should become part of the Regional Department of Anaesthetics, it is recommended that two maximum part-time appointments be made at St Columciile's. These should be honorary members of staff at St Vincent's Hospital. St Columciile's will seek recognition of training of junior medical staff and it is recommended that the junior medical staff should rotate with St Vincent's.

#### **Pathology**

It is recommended that St Vincent's Hospital should take over responsibility for pathology services at St Columciile's Hospital. The present workload of St Columciile's is 22,000 tests per annum (including 2,000 night emergencies) and this figure will increase as a result of increased medical and surgical activity suggested in the foregoing paragraphs. Local laboratory facilities will be provided at St Columciile's Hospital to enable routine tests to be carried out on site, it is recommended that a histo-pathologist be appointed with a major interest at St Columciile's and that technical staff be appointed to St Columciile's preferably rotating through St Vincent's Hospital, it is recognised that some facilities at St Vincent's Hospital may need upgrading to cope with the additional workload.

#### **Radiology**

St Columciile's will require two posts of radiologist. One to be filled immediately, the holder of which would be wholetime to St Columciile's but would be a member of the Radiology Department, St Vincent's. The second post to be structured and filled in accordance with the developing needs at St Columciile's and the other hospitals in the region. The two consultants will have rights of referral for major and specialist investigation to the Department of Radiology, St Vincent's.

They would participate fully in academic and continuing educational programmes of St Vincent's Hospital.

### **ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**

The accident and emergency services for the area should be closely coordinated. The major trauma centre should remain in St Vincent's Hospital and the services in St Columciile's and St Michael's should be linked with that centre and be dependent on it, particularly in relation to serious accidents and emergencies. These services should be properly co-ordinated and there should be a clear admissions policy.

### **GENERAL**

The hospital requirements for the area are directed to its broad community needs including general medicine and general surgery. The three hospitals, St Vincent's, St Columciile's and St Michael's will each service in a co-ordinated way, through agreed admission policies, the broad community needs of the area including general medicine, general surgery and paediatrics. St Columciile's will provide an obstetric and neo-natal service.

It is recognised that the specialised services for the area will largely be centred on St Vincent's Hospital.

**ADMINISTRATION**

It is recommended that the membership of the new board for St Columcille's Hospital should be as follows:

Eastern Health Board .....	9 members
St Vincent's Hospital .....	4 members
St Michael's Hospital .....	1 member
Local representation.....	1 member

It is considered that membership of the Board should include one or two members of the staff of St Columcille's Hospital.

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Sweeney, Carroll, Hynes, Hickey, Timmins, Wilioughby, Freehill, Mrs Fitzgerald, Mrs Glenn, Dr Behan, Prof McCornuck and Dr Hawkins contributed, and to which the Chief Executive Officer and Mr Hickey, Programme Manager, General Hospital Care, replied, the following motion was proposed by Cllr Carroll, seconded by Dr Behan, and agreed:

"That the proposals contained in report no. 35/1982 be adopted"

Cllr Mrs Fitzgerald agreed to defer, for a month, her motion that a member of the Association for the Improvement in Medical Services be invited to serve on the board of St Columcille's Hospital.

152/82

**REQUEST FROM ST JAMES'S HOSPITAL BOARD FOR APPROVAL  
IN PRINCIPLE TO THE SUB-LEASE OF A SITE FOR A PROPOSED  
PRIVATE HOSPITAL**

The following report no. 36/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

1. Board members have already received the letter dated 29 September from the Chief Executive Officer of the St James's Hospital Board which opens by stating that:

"It is the policy of the St James's Board that facilities should be provided to enable consultant medical staff to undertake private practice."

Enclosed with that letter were:

- a detailed report which sets out the options open to the St James's Board in this regard;
  - the terms of a motion put to and agreed by the St James's Board at its meeting on 24 September 1982 agreeing in principle to the erection of a free-standing hospital unit for private practice subject to a number of requirements or pre-conditions being met, as detailed in the terms of the motion as agreed.
2. As members are aware, the relationship between the Eastern Health Board and St James's Hospital Board has 2 aspects:
- the Eastern Health Board is the lessor, and the St James's Hospital Board is the lessee of the existing hospital and the site for development of the new hospital. One of the terms of the lease provides

"That the lease shall not assign, sub-let or part with possession or allow any person to make use of the premises or any part thereof or grant any rights in respect thereof without the previous consent in writing of the lessor which shall not unreasonably be withheld."

- the Eastern Health Board has the right to nominate ten members to the Minister for Health for appointment to the St James's Hospital Board in accordance with the terms of the St James's Hospital Board (Establishment) Order 1971. The total membership of that Board is twenty.

3. It is implicit in the terms of the motion agreed by the St James's Hospital Board that approval of the erection of any separate special unit on the St James's site either by the Hospital Board itself and/or by any private consortium would be subject to the approval of the Eastern Health Board and of the Minister for Health. The necessity for such approval arises because any change in the terms of existing leasehold agreements would require the approval of the Eastern Health Board and of the Minister for Health.

The letter of 29 September 1982 from the Chief Executive Officer of the St James's Board formally requests on behalf of his Board the Eastern Health Board to indicate whether in principle they would be prepared to sub-lease a portion of the St James's site, yet to be identified, for the purpose required.

4. It is the function of the St James's Hospital Board to make adequate and appropriate arrangements for the provision of a comprehensive efficient medical, surgical and related hospital service free of charge to eligible patients. The motion agreed by the St James's Hospital Board on 24 September acknowledges this as the primary objective and function of the new St James's Hospital, it is further acknowledged that it is only after requirements of this primary objective have been met that provision may then be made for facilities for consultants to engage in private practice either within the new St James's Hospital and/or in any separate unit that may be erected on the site for that purpose.

5. It is also implicit in the terms of the motion agreed by the St James's Hospital Board and its agreement in principle to the erection of a free-standing hospital unit for private practice, that further studies will be necessary before any detailed proposal can be brought forward; that the objective of such studies will be to establish whether or not such a free-standing unit would have any adverse impact upon the new St James's Hospital and its services to the public. The outcome of such studies would determine whether any such proposal would be likely to be approved, and it is clear that the St James's Hospital Board would first have to be satisfied that there would be no such adverse impact before any firm decision could be taken.

6. It is clear from the documentation received and from discussions with the Chief Executive Officer of the St James's Board that no final decision is possible or called for at this stage. Before this is possible it will have to be clearly established by any interests involved in promoting such a project further that:

- any separate free-standing hospital unit for private practice could be fitted into the St James's site without prejudicing in any way the development of the new St James's Hospital;
- the operational relationships between any such unit and the new St James's Hospital would be such as not to prejudice in any way the primary objective and function of the latter hospital.

The body with the primary responsibility for considering and making decisions on these two issues is the St James's Hospital Board on which the Eastern Health Board is represented as detailed in 2 above.

In judging the possibility of accommodating any such unit on the St James's site, the Hospital Board will no doubt be relying on the Project Team responsible for the planning and development of the new St James's Hospital to carefully evaluate and advise on any such proposal. This Project Team is representative of the St James's Board and of the Department of Health, and works with the Design Team appointed for the new hospital.

7. As regards the agreement in principle now being sought from the Eastern Health Board in relation to the sub-lease of a site, it is apparent that if our Board were to give such agreement in principle at this stage they would not be finally or irretrievably committed in this regard. The area of any site, if such can be identified and is capable of meeting the criteria set out in 6 above, would have to be specified and the financial and other terms of the sub-lease worked out before any final commitment could be considered or agreed to by our Board.

8. The report dated 24 September 1982 to the St James's Board, which has already been circulated, gives details of the various factors which underlie that Board's policy in relation to the provision of facilities to enable consultant medical staff to undertake private practice, and of the various options considered. That report also covers such matters as the consultants' right to private practice under the terms of their contract and safeguards for eligible patients. Similar considerations apply in relation to other hospitals.

9. For the information of members of our Board the situation generally is that there are three private hospitals operating side by side with public hospitals in Dublin at present. Two of these, the Mater and St Vincent's are large general teaching hospitals. Two of the hospitals also make provision for private or semi-private patients in the public hospital.

It is understood also that in relation to the proposed new major hospitals at Beaumont and Tallaght, the Minister for Health has agreed in principle to make available a portion of each site for a private hospital subject to

- further agreement regarding the actual area of the site to be so identified, the financial arrangements for same
- the implications for the public hospital and its services including financial arrangements for any shared services, being satisfactory.

The request from the St James's Hospital Board to our Board for agreement in principle to the sub-lease of a site for a private hospital has been discussed with the Department of Health and it is understood that the Minister would be unlikely to object in principle to the provision of a private hospital on the St James's campus, provided it does not interfere with the development and operation of the new St James's public hospital.

10. In summary:

- the request to our Board for agreement in principle to the grant of a sub-lease for a possible private hospital site on the St James's campus does not involve any final commitment at this stage
- before any further request involving a final commitment would arise, it would have to be clearly established that any such proposal would not prejudice the development or operation of the new St James's public hospital

- the request for agreement in principle is in line with the approach taken generally in relation to other public hospitals where the question of a possible private hospital has arisen
- the request to our Board arises because of the terms of the existing leasehold arrangements relating to the St James's campus.

In light of the various considerations outlined above, and the terms of the existing leasehold arrangements, it would not appear to be reasonable to withhold agreement in principle to the St James's Board request at this stage.

Following a discussion to which Dr Behan, Cllrs Carroll, Freehill, Sweeney and Hynes, Dr Keane, Mrs Clune and Prof McCormick contributed, and to which Mr Hickey, Programme Manager, General Hospital Care replied, the following motion was proposed by Dr Behan, seconded by Mrs Clune and carried on a show of hands:

"That the Health Board adopt report no. 36/1982 and, without commitment, in terms of report no. 3671982, the Board agree in principle to the grant of a sub lease for a site for a private hospital on the St James's campus."

153/82

#### PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEES

The reports of the following Visiting Committees, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:

- (i) Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held in South Earl Street Health Centre on 16 September 1982.  
On a proposal by Cllr Hickey, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, the report was noted.
- (ii) Community Care Visiting Committee meeting in Naas on 21 September '82.  
On a proposal by Cllr Groome, seconded by Cllr Hickey, the report was noted.
- (iii) No. 1 Visiting Committee meeting held at St Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum on 29 September '82.  
On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the report was noted.  
  
It was agreed on Cllr Sweeney's suggestion that the Board should make known its appreciation of the Sheltered Housing Project Committee for their work on the Sheltered Housing Project at St Colman's Hospital.
- (iv) No. 3 Visiting Committee meeting held at St Ita's Hospital on 11 October '82.  
On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the report was noted.

**154/82 PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES**

The reports of the following Local Committee meetings, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:

- (i) Dublin City Local Committee meeting held on 11 October '82  
On a proposal by Mrs Bonar, seconded by Dr Behan, the report was noted.
- (ii) Dublin County Local Committee meeting held on 14 October '82  
On a proposal by Cllr Mrs Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr Carroll, the report was noted.

**155/82****NOTICES OF MOTION**

- (i) The following motion was proposed by Dr R Hawkins:  
  
"That eligibility for services under the General Medical Services Scheme should be based on a means test only."

The motion was seconded by Dr Behan, and following a discussion to which Dr Hawkins, Prof McCormick, Mrs Bonar and Dr Behan contributed, was agreed.

- (ii) The following motion was proposed by Dr Hawkins:  
  
"That eligibility for the Drug Rebate Scheme should be confined to people with an income under £9,500 per annum or the possession of Hospital Services Card"

The motion was seconded by Dr Behan and agreed.

**156/82****CORRESPONDENCE**

It was agreed that letter dated 20 October 1982 from the Department of Health regarding development of Dublin General Hospitals and the voluntary, corporate and related bodies in the Board's functional area should be recirculated for the December meeting of the Board.

**157/82****OTHER BUSINESS**

Dr Keane referred to the burning of the health centre at Kilbarrack and enquired if the now health centre there would have a security fence. Dr Hawkins supported Dr Keane in his suggestion that health centres should be made more secure.

Mr Donohue, Programme Manager, Community Care Service, informed the members that a request for security fencing around the health centre in Kilbarrack had been turned down in the Department of Health, but that the matter had again been raised with the Department.

Dr Behan asked that the cost of security services to the Board be considered in conjunction with the Estimates for 1983.

The meeting concluded at 8.15 pm

CORRECT: P B Segrave  
C E O





## EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of proceedings of Monthly Meeting  
of the Eastern Health Board held in  
the Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital  
on Thursday, 2 December 1982 at 6.00 pm

### PRESENT

Mr N Andrews TD  
Dr J D Behan  
Cllr L Belton  
Mrs B Bonar  
Cllr D Browne  
Dr M Butler  
Dr J Buttimer  
Cllr M Carroll  
Mrs D Clune  
Cllr E Doyle  
Prof J S Doyle  
Dr R J Draper  
Cllr B J Durkan TD  
Mr P Finegan  
Ald A FitzGerald  
Cllr Mrs E Fitzgerald

Cllr M Freehill  
Mr J Gahan  
Cllr Mrs A Glenn TD  
Cllr A Groome  
Cllr T Hand  
Dr R Hawkins  
Cllr P Hickey  
Cllr F Hynes  
Mr D Kane  
Dr D I Keane  
Cllr T Leonard  
Prof J McCormick  
Cllr E Stagg  
Cllr J Sweeney  
Cllr G Timmins TD

### IN THE CHAIR

Cllr Mrs A Glenn TD

### OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr P B Segrave  
Mr F J Donohue  
Mr K J Hickey  
Mr T P Keyes  
Mr J F Reynolds  
Mr L P Kavanagh  
Mr G Brennan  
Prof I Browne  
Mr J Doyle  
Mr P J Swords  
Mr F J McCullough  
Miss A Flanagan

Mr C Mansfield  
Mr A O'Brien  
Mr K Ward  
Dr J Kiely  
Mr M O'Connor  
Mr T Mahon  
Mrs B Travers  
Miss S Keegan  
Mr J Leech  
Miss G Williams  
Miss M Quinn  
Miss A O'Keefe

158/82

**CONDOLENCES**

The Chairman informed the members of the recent deaths of  
Nurse Bernadette McConnell, Cherry Orchard Hospital  
Edel Burke, Social Worker, Area 2 (Clonskeagh)  
Edward Sheehan, former Assistant Section Officer, Hospitals Dept.

John McCaffrey, brother of Mrs Teresa Smith, Telephonist, 1 James's Street  
Michael McGrath, brother of John McGrath,

Assistant Section Officer, Hospitals Dept.

Sean McCurtain, father of Mary McCurtain, Clerical Officer,

Community Care Dept., Emmet House

The members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the deceased.

159/82

**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

The Chairman congratulated Deputies Durkan, Timmins, Andrews and Aherne on their election to Dail Eireann. Cllrs Carroll, Stagg and Hynes associated themselves with the Chairman's congratulations and congratulated the Chairman on her election as a member of Dail Eireann.

160/82

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 4  
NOVEMBER 1982**

The minutes, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Deputy Andrews, seconded by Cllr Hickey.

Cllrs Freehill and Mrs Fitzgerald requested that it be recorded that they were opposed to the Board's agreement in principle to the grant of a sub-lease of a site for a private hospital on the St James's campus. (Minute 152/82)

161/82

**QUESTION**

On a proposal by Cllr Hickey, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, it was agreed that the question lodged should be answered.

**QUESTION**

Cllr Mary Freehill

"Would the Chief Executive Officer please furnish me with the list of voluntary organisations who receive grants and funding from the Board. I would like to have the names and amounts for 1981 and 1982."

**REPLY**

"The amounts of grants paid in 1981, and estimated for 1982, to agencies, including voluntary bodies, providing services for or on behalf of the Health Board are set out on the attached schedules.

A detailed list of the voluntary bodies concerned is provided as an appendix."

Service Heading & Service	Organisational Work	1981 £	Est to be paid 1982 £
GMS	36 Org. providing service and	890,000	1,072,000
Meals on Wheels	95 Organisations receiving subsidy of 50p per meal supplied	275,000	306,000
Home Help	funded by Board		(Cost of meals service x Board's hospitals & St James's not ind)
Children in Care			(Cost of service provided through Com.VIMfare Sec. not included)
Approved schools & homes for children	40 schools ) Paid approved & 1 home ) capitation rates	1,494,000	1,773.500
Dental, Ophthalmic & Aural			
Dental Services	Dental Health Foundation and Dublin Dental Hospital	26.200	21.200
Care of the Handicapped			
Training and Placement	Rehabilitation Institute Polio Fellowship St Michael's House (These bodies have a range of training centres and community workshops) Irish Wheelchair Association • Driving Instruction Central Remedial Clinic	262.000	386,500
Blind Welfare	4 institutions/homes for blind Board for Employment of Blind National Council for Blind Library, hostel and other services	630,000	774.400
Contributions to Voluntary Organisations		1,855,808	2,700,000
	General grants to organisations providing a range of health and welfare services. Listed in eight broad categories below.		
Extern Institutions			
Homes for unmarried mothers		23,000	28,000
Homes for deaf & dumb		58,000	65,300

**COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAMME A.**  
**Grants to voluntary organisations**

Ref.	Voluntary organisations providing (The total number of orgs, to get grants in each category is shown in brackets)	Grants paid from 1981 Allocation (incl. additional amounts provided during 1981)	Provision Allocations 1982 based on original allocation + additional specific amounts provided to date (12.11.1982)
<b>A</b>	<b>Community services mainly for elderly (Services include day centres, clubs, laundry, visitation etc.)</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
(i)	Serving ALL C.C.Areas (9 orgs.)	101.729	166.000
(ii)	In and serving a district/parish(es) in all of the 10 Community Care areas (115 orgs) (Does not include payments for Meals on Wheels or Home Help Service)	180.091	203.800
<b>B</b>	<b>Hostels, housing &amp; accommodation for elderly (10 orgs)</b>	<b>96,780</b>	<b>161.500</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>Specialist organisations providing</b>	<b>110.926</b>	<b>140.000</b>
(i)	Services for unmarried mothers/ single parents/ family problems and counselling (9 orgs)	219.765	221.000
(ii)	Services for handicapped/particular illness/problem (16 orgs.)	208.504	249.000
(iii)	Social work/counselling service/ child related services (15 orgs)	87.864	100.000
(iv)	Other specialist services (2 orgs)		
<b>D</b>	<b>Hostels for teenagers and deficit grants to homes for children (5 hostels and up to 20 homes/schools)</b>	<b>221.110</b>	<b>550.000</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>Services for travelling children (1 main org. with a range of services and other groups providing 12 area services)</b>	<b>363.393</b>	<b>420.000</b>
<b>f</b>	<b>Preschool day nurseries (32 orgs)</b>	<b>198.996</b>	<b>363.600</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>Child care and youth projects (2 orgs./projects)</b>	<b>60.650</b>	<b>75.000</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>Direct expenditure/purchases for orgs, and issues from Stores (mainly for A and G)</b>	<b>36.000</b>	<b>50.000</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1.855.808</b>	<b>2.700.000</b>

**VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS WHO RECEIVE  
GRANTS AND FUNDING FROM THE BOARD**

**B. Grants paid by General Hospital Care Programme**

**Organisations providing accommodation for elderly**

	Amount paid 1981	Provision made for 1982
1 Mageough Home. Cowper Road. Dublin 6.		
2 St John's House of Rest. Merrion Road. Dublin 4.		
3 St Mary's Home, Pembroke Park. Dublin 4.		
4 St Monica's Home. Belvedere Place. Dublin 1.	43,000	49,000
5 High Park Home, Drumcondra. Dublin 9.		
6 Legion of Mary		
7 Simpson's Hospital. Dundrum Co Dublin. Deficit Grant		

**Organisations providing other services  
mainly for a particular illness/handicap**

1 Irish Heart Foundation )		
2 Ambulance Corps. Order of Malta )	468.170	539.800
3 National Association for Cerebral Palsy )		

**C. Grants paid by Special Hospital Care Programme**

**Organisations providing a range of services**

	Amount paid 1981	Amount provided for 1982
1 Mental Health Association of Ireland		
2 Irish National Council on Alcoholism		
3 Social Welfare Centre. Stanhope Street		
4 Tolco		
5 Irish Foundation for Human Development		
6 Gheel Ltd.		
7 Rutland Centre Ltd.		
8 Mater Dei Institute	678.363	857.352
9 Dublin Central Mission		
10 Irish Society for Autistic Children		
11 Coolmine Ltd.		
12 Society of St Vincent de Paul - St Ita's Branch		
13 Schizophrenia Association		
14 Mahylock Ltd.		
15 Our Lady's Hostel		

Organisations providing mental handicap services

	Amount paid 1981	Amount provided for 1982
1 St John of God Order )		
2 Wicklow Association )		
3 KARE )		
4 Carlow Association )		
5 Stewart's Hospital )		
6 Cherry Group )		
7 St Vincent's, Navan Road )		
8 St John's School )		
9 Peacehaven )		
10 ScoilCiaran )	555.933	613.042
11 Sleepy Hollow )		
12 Walkinstown Association (Includes for 1981 £4.000 ESF Grant) )		
13 Breakaway Scheme		
14 Medico Social Research Board )		
15 Sunbeam House -Industrial Training Centre )		
16 Down's Syndrome Association )		

Organisations providing mental handicap services  
(Paid on a capitation basis)

1 Hampstead Hospital )		
2 Rudolf Sterner Schools )		
3 St Paul's Hospital )		
4 Rushton Hall School )	205.431	229.891
5 Sunbeam House - Residential Unit )		
6 Delrow House )		
7 Harvey Nursing Home )		

162/82

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

## (i) Geriatric Working Party Report

"The Chairman of the Board has received a copy of the report prepared under the Chairmanship of Prof James McCormick entitled 'Geriatric Working Party Report'. Copies of the report have been ordered and will be made available to Board members as soon as they are received. Members may wish to consider the report when they have had an opportunity to read it."

## (ii) Capital Programme Committee

"We have received communications from the Department of Health regarding the National Capital Development Programme and requests for priority listing from our Board.

Following consultation with the Chairman it is suggested to the Board that consideration might be given to arranging, in the first instance, a meeting of the Capital Programme Committee.

The following members were nominated to be members of the Capital Programme Committee: Cllr M Carroll, Dr J Behan, Cllr F Hynes, Cllr E Stagg, together with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board. As Cllr Stagg is now Vice-Chairman of the Board he is thereby now an ex-officio member of the Committee and his replacement is a matter for consideration by the Board.

In light of the Department's requests the Board may wish to include the Chairmen of the Board's Visiting Committees. The membership of the Capital Programme Committee would then be as follows: Cllr M Carroll, Dr J Behan, Cllr F Hynes, Cllr D Browne, Cllr A Groome, Cllr J Sweeney, Cllr P Hickey, and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board."

163/82

## PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEES

The reports of the following Visiting Committees, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:

## (i) Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held in Arklow Health Centre on 13 October 1982.

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the report was noted.

## (ii) No 1 Visiting Committee meeting held in District Hospital, Baltinglass on 26 October 1982.

On a proposal by Cllr Timmins, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the report was noted.

## (iii) No 2 Visiting Committee meeting held in Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum, on 27 October 1982.

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the report was noted.

164/82

**TEMPORARY BORROWING**

The following report no. 37/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

At meeting held on 2 September 1982, the Board consented to the temporary borrowing by way of overdraft up to an overall limit of £1.5 million during the quarter ending 31 December 1982.

It is considered that similar overdraft accommodation may be required during the March quarter 1983.

Accordingly, I request that the Board consents to borrowing by way of overdraft during the three months to 31 March 1983 to a maximum of £1.5 million.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Stagg, seconded by Cllr Hickey and agreed:

"That the proposals contained in report no. 37/1982 regarding temporary borrowing be adopted by the Eastern Health Board."

166782

**REQUEST FROM ST JAMES'S HOSPITAL FOR  
REMAINING PORTION OF SITE FRONTING ON TO  
JAMES'S STREET**

The following report no. 38/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

By letter dated 18 October 1982, the St James's Hospital Board formally requested the early agreement of our Board to lease the remaining portion of the St James's site fronting on to James's Street to facilitate the construction of the Clinical Sciences Complex which includes the new Dublin Dental Teaching Hospital, the new medical and nursing schools and the completion of the Hospital project. We have been advised in the letter from St James's Hospital that our Board's decision is an urgent prerequisite to obtaining the sanction of the Higher Education Authority and the Minister for Education to proceed to the next planning stage of the Clinical Sciences Complex. We have also been advised that the plan for the complex has taken into account the wishes of our Board to preserve the commemorative trees and monument on the site.

In the early 1970's, our Board decided to dedicate the St James's site, which it owned, to the development of the new major general teaching hospital (St James's) which would incorporate existing facilities and services then provided through the Federated Dublin Voluntary Hospitals, Trinity College Medical School and the existing St Kevin's Hospital. At this stage most of the site has been transferred. The Board, on a number of occasions, considered the question of leasing the remaining portion of the site fronting on to James's Street, which it had retained. At the August 1980 meeting it was agreed unanimously to transfer to the St James's Hospital Board the balance of the site fronting on to James's Street provided the Hospital Board could arrange to make available, with the agreement of the Department of Health, adequate suitable alternative accommodation for our Board.



Over the years our Board has taken significant steps towards the provision of a suitable headquarters which could accommodate staff at present housed in unsatisfactory accommodation in old buildings at no. 1 James's Street. A committee of the Board examined the existing premises and advised that they were totally unsuitable. The Board, therefore, decided to build a new headquarters building on the North Circular Road side of the St Brendan's campus and outline planning permission was obtained from Dublin Corporation. (Please see attached map A). Over the same period numerous requests were made to the Department of Health for capital funding for the Board to enable it to proceed with the building of a purpose-built headquarters which would facilitate the transfer of the remainder of the site to the St James's Hospital Board.

It has been our Board's position that the provision of alternative accommodation for our Board is a part of the overall cost of the development of the new St James's Hospital, as this was the consideration given to our Board when we agreed to the original transfer.

In a letter dated 23 November 1982 the Department of Health has now conveyed approval to the provision of accommodation as proposed by our Board on the St Brendan's Hospital campus.

Having regard to the terms of letter 23 November 1982, from the Department of Health I consider that the Board should now formally agree to lease the remaining portion of the St James's site fronting on to James's Street (as indicated on the attached map B) to the St James's Hospital Board and to the sub-lease of the relevant areas to Dublin University to enable the development of the campus to proceed as planned.

Following a lengthy discussion to which Cllrs Carroll, Hynes, Freehill, Stagg, Sweeney, Browne and Mrs Fitzgerald, Dr Behan, Prof McCormick, Dr Hawkins, and Dr Keane contributed, and to which the Chief Executive Officer replied, the following motion, which had been proposed by Dr Behan, seconded by Mrs Bonar, was agreed:

"On the basis of having received the approval of the Department of Health to proceed with the development of new offices contained in report no. 38/1982 from the Chief Executive Officer, the Board agreed to the leasing of the remaining portion of the site, as outlined in report no. 38/1982."

Cllr Mrs Fitzgerald voted against the motion.

166/82

#### PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES

The report of the meeting of the Wicklow Local Committee held on 17 September 1982 having been circulated, was noted on a proposal by Dr Hawkins, seconded by Cllr Sweeney.

167/82

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

(i) The following motion was proposed by Alderman A FitzGerald, seconded by Cllr Freehill, and agreed:

"That the Programme Manager, Community Care, give an outline of the meeting held with the managers of the various hostels for the homeless at the Community Care headquarters, and say what suggestions were made on better use of the existing accommodation."

Mr Donohue reported on the problems highlighted at the meeting held with representatives of the hostels in Emmet House on 19 May 1982. The representatives of the hostels undertook to consider these problems and to convey any suggestions for their solution to Mr Donohue. It was also agreed that a further similar meeting would be arranged to consider any proposals which might be made. Mr Donohue also stated that he was preparing a report which would be brought before the Board in due course.

Following a discussion to which Ald. FitzGerald, Cllr Freehill, Prof McCormick, and Mr Gahan contributed, and to which Mr Donohue replied, it was agreed that a further meeting with the representatives of the hostels would be arranged, and that some members of the Board could attend this meeting.

(ii) The following motion was proposed by Cllr Mrs Fitzgerald:

"That a member of the Association for the Improvement in the Maternity Services be invited to serve on the Advisory Board for St Columcille's Hospital and that the Eastern Health Board recommends to the Minister that that Association be represented on the new Board for St Columcille's."

The motion was seconded by Cllr Freehill and, following a discussion to which Cllr\* Freehill, Sweeney, Carroll, Stagg, Mrs Fitzgerald, Dr Draper, Mr Finegan, Prof McCormick, Prof Doyle, Dr Behan and Mrs Bonar contributed, was defeated on a show of hands.

168/82

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter dated 20 October 1982 from the Department of Health enclosing a statement of general hospital development costs in the Dublin area, which had been circulated, was noted.

169/82

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillors Stagg and Groome referred to the manner in which a review of medical card holders in Co Kildare had recently been carried out as a result of which a large number of people had their medical cards withdrawn simultaneously. They expressed their concern regarding cases where hardship had been caused and requested an assurance that steps would be taken to deal promptly with such cases.

The Chief Executive Officer assured the members that, in any situation where the attention of the Board's officers was drawn to the existence of hardship, every effort would be made to deal with the problem speedily and sympathetically.

**2/12/1982**

**The Chairman wish the members, the staff and the Chief Executive Officer and the staff a happy Christmas. The Chief Executive Officer, on his own behalf, and on the behalf of the staff wished the Chairman and the members the complements of the season.**

**The meeting concluded at 8.30 pm**

**CORRECT: P B Segrave**