

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
Olr 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 PI Lyons
Mr PJ 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 1 981 (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 1 24.856m including £16.1 50m for the Board's share expenditure incurred by the General Medical Services (Payments) Board the original allocation was £11 5.9m 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 1st 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
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on Thursday, 4 March 1982 at 6.00 pm**

PRESENT

**Dr J Behan
Cllr L Beton
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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: -

General Hospitals Programme	£
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.	
 Special Hospital Programme	
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.	
 Community Care Programme	
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
TOTAL	3,500,000

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:

Local Committee	Cause of vacancy	Person recommended for Appointment
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.

Cont.

Cont

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.

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Property	Area of land bought	Bought from	Price
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

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

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 WaluM, 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 Hospital¹ 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 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 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

Cont.

.Com

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.

