



**EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

**Minutes of proceedings of Monthly Meeting  
held in the  
Board Room, St Mary's Hospital, Chapelzod, Dublin 20  
on Thursday 1 September 1988 at 6 pm**

*Present*

Mrs B Bonar	Cllr I Callely
Mrs D Clune	Dr P Devitt
Cllr J Dillon Byrne	Cllr P Dunne
Cllr B J Durkan TD	Ald A FitzGerald
Cllr Dr D Fitzpatrick TD	Cllr C Flood TD
Cllr M Gannon	Cllr A Glenn
Cllr A Groome	Cllr W J Harvey
Dr R Hawkins	Cllr P Hickey
Cllr F Hynes	Dr D I Keane
Dr P McCarthy	Dr J Masterson
Dr C Murphy	Dr J O'Boyle
Dr B O'Herlihy	Cllr L O'Neill
Cllr J Reilly	Mr R Roche TD
Cllr J Sweeney	

*Apologies*

Cllr B Briscoe TD, Cllr M Carroll, Prof J S Doyle, Ms M Nealon Mr McGuire

*In the Chair*

Cllr A Groome

**Officers in Attendance**

Mr K J Hickey, Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Mr J Doyle, Acting Programme Manager, Community Care  
Mr M Walsh, Acting Programme Manager, Special Hospital Care  
Mr L Kavanagh, Acting Programme Manager, General Hospital Care  
Mr M Gallagher, Finance Officer  
Mr N McNee, Management Services Officer  
Prof B O'Donnell, Dublin Medical Officer of Health  
Mr G Brennan, Technical Services Officer  
Mr M J O'Connor, Secretary

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**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

The Chairman read the following report which was noted by the Board:

The following items are for information and not for debate:

1. I wish to remind members that a Special Meeting of the Special Hospital Care Programme Committee will be held in St Loman's on Tuesday 13 September when members will have an opportunity to visit the recently opened geriatric unit (Beech Haven),
2. Members will have received their invitations to the official opening of the Lincara Community Mental Health Centre at Lincara Community Mental Health Centre at Ballwaltrim, Bray, on Thursday 8 September 1988 at 3.30 pm.

A meeting of the Special Meeting of our Board on Thursday 20 October at 6.00 pm to consider services for the elderly.

- 4 A meeting of the Working Group on the budget will be held on Friday 23 September 1988 at 11.00 am to consider the up to date situation regarding our Board's Allocation for Non-Capital 1988
- 5 A meeting of the group appointed to review our Standing Orders will be held on Wednesday 7 September 1988 at 11.00 am in St Mary's Hospital.

it was agreed to the Special Meeting to consider services for elderly should be held on Wednesday 19 October 1988 at 6.00 pm.

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**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 4TH AUGUST. 1988**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 4th August. 1988. having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr. Callely, seconded by Dr. Dunne.

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**QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

On a proposal by Mrs. Clune, seconded by Dr. McCarthy, it was agreed to answer the questions which had been lodged:-

- (i) *Cllr. Dr. D. Fitzpatrick, T.D.*

'How much of the total allocation to the six hospitals in the Dublin Accident and Emergency Scheme, is set aside for the Accident and Emergency Services?'

Reply

It is not possible to give exact information on the amounts allocated by the hospitals participating in the Accident and Emergency Rota Scheme to their Accident and Emergency departments. The hospitals have indicated that specific allocation to these departments is only made relative to staffing directly chargeable to these Departments. No details can be extracted from the total hospital Budget as to the extent the activities of the Accident and Emergency Department impinge on the total hospital Budget.

(ii) Cllr. Dr. D. Fitzpatrick, T.D.

'How many patients are admitted to the Dublin Voluntary Hospitals via the Accident and Emergency Departments?'

Reply

17,389 patients were admitted via the Accident and Emergency Departments to the six Hospitals participating in the Accident and Emergency rota Scheme in the first 6 months of 1988. This represents an average of 669 admissions per week through Accident and Emergency Departments of the six hospitals involved in the Scheme

(iii) Cllr. Dr. D. Fitzpatrick, T.D.

'How much money has the Eastern Health Board budgeted for during the last fiscal year for the treatment of (a) alcoholism and the diseases related to same, (b) drug abuse and the diseases related to same and (c) sexually transmitted diseases and the diseases related to same?'

Reply

(a) Alcoholism and Related Diseases	
St. Dymphna's North Circular Road	£335,000
Irish National Council on Alcoholism	£ 25,000
Stanhope Street Centre	£180,000
Rutland Centre	£100,000
(b) Drug Abuse and Related Diseases	
Coolmine Therapeutic Community	£230,000
Drug Abuse Counsellors	£ 95,000
Talbot Day centre	£ 71,000
Miscellaneous	£ 4,000
(c) Sexually Transmitted and Related Diseases	
Pathology tests	£ 22,000
Seven Sessional venereologists. Mater Hospital	£260,000
Two Part-Time Contact Tracers Mater Hospital	£ 10,000
One Counsellor, St. James's Hospital	£ 11,000

Apart from our Board's direct expenditure on these services, which can be readily quantified, significant additional expenditure is incurred in a variety of ways in meeting the cost of the particular conditions and other related diseases eg. a proportion of admissions to our psychiatric hospitals and to other psychiatric hospitals funded through our Board, accident and emergency services and admissions to general hospitals, general practitioner services, grants to agencies providing hostel services, community nursing services, counselling services etc.

It is not possible to readily extract details of the total costs involved in providing services for the conditions listed in the question. However, it is worth noting that admissions to psychiatric hospitals for alcoholism or alcoholic psychosis increased from 1638 in 1965 to 7193 in 1984 (an increase of 339%). The number of admissions in the under 25 years age group increased by 299% between 1970 and 1984.

Our Board's programme for the homeless caters for large numbers of former alcoholics and our Supplementary Welfare Service provides financial and material support for the families of alcoholics.

In relation to drug abuse and sexually transmitted diseases it is not possible to readily quantify the significant 'down-line' implications for health and welfare agency budgets.

(iv) Cllr. L O'Neill

'To ask the Chief Executive Officer if approval has been sought for the purchase by the Eastern Health Board of pre-fabricated buildings in the grounds of Saint James's Hospital, Dublin 8, which were formerly occupied by the institute for Clinical Pharmacology; the price it is intended to pay for these buildings; whether it is appropriate that the Eastern Health Board should pay for these buildings, as the Institute for Clinical Pharmacology had occupied this site virtually rent free'

Reply

No action has been taken by the Eastern Health Board on the implementation of the terms of a previous agreement to compensate the institute of Clinical Pharmacology for the premises it had occupied in the grounds of St James's Hospital.

The basis of the agreement has changed and the matter is at present with our Legal Advisers.

KM/88

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

1. 'Arising out of a recent motion by Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne our Board decided to seek the views of Dr. J.H. Walsh, Deputy Chief Medical Officer of the Department of Health, the Irish AIDS Co-ordinator, on the question of introducing compulsory notification of this disease.

I have circulated for the information of members a copy of Dr. Walsh's reply from which it will be noted that the present system of non compulsory notification is working well.

2. Drug Treatment Centre Pearse Street

I have circulated for the information of members a letter dated 11th August, 1988 from the Department of Health confirming the appointment by the Minister for Health of our Board's two nominees, Mrs. Bernadette Bonar and Ms ? Flenagan, to membership of the new Drug Treatment Centre Board which will oversee the operation of the new treatment facility at Pearse Street Dublin. This facility will replace the Drug Treatment Centre previously located at Jervis Street Hospital.

3. *Single Europe Market 1992*

I have also circulated in correspondence for the information of members a summary prepared by our Finance Officer of the implications for the Eastern Health Board of the proposed Single Market in Europe in 1992.

4. *National Lottery 1987/1988*

I have circulated this evening for the information of members copy letter from the Secretary of the Department of Health advising of further allocations totalling £130,000 to the following projects in our Board's area.

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|----|---|----------|
| 1. | KARE Co Kildare Association of Parents and Friends of Handicapped Children contribution towards running costs.              | £20,000  |
| 2. | Catholic Marriage Advisory Council Dublin, contribution towards the provision of a centre for counselling in Blanchardstown | £ 25,000 |
| 3. | County Wicklow Association for the Mentally Handicapped - development of localised day service for children in Co Wicklow   | £ 50,000 |
| 4. | Computer Training Programme for the Disabled, (Management Services. Eastern Health Board)                                   | £ 25,000 |
| 5. | Carnew Day Centre for the Elderly Co Wicklow  | £ 10.000 |

5. *Healthy Cities Project*

*have circulated for this meeting a summary report on the subject of the Healthy Cities Project of the WHO's European Office.*

It has already been agreed at the July meeting that the Eastern Health Board in co-operation with the Dublin Local Authorities should make application to have Dublin recognised and included as one of the participating cities in the WHO.

I am recommending that the formal resolution as detailed on Page 4 of the Report should now be adopted by our Board this evening.

A similar report and resolution has been put before each of the Dublin local authorities.

6. *Former Health Centre at Wyattville, Ballybrack*

An offer in respect of this premises, which is no longer required by our Board, has been accepted. In accordance with the usual practice a Section 83 notice will be circulated for consideration at the October meeting of our Board.'

Following a discussion on the Healthy Cities Project the following was proposed by Cllr Dunne, seconded by Dr O'Herltry, and unanimously agreed:

'That this Board will in relation to relevant matters under its control co-operate with the Local Authorities in the greater Dublin area to achieve the aims of the healthy cities project and in the setting up of an organisational structure project with a view to enabling the 5 major elements of the project to be implemented viz:

1. The adoption of a city health plan aimed towards achieving 'Health for All by the Year 2000'
2. The development of 'Models of good practice' of pilot projects in a variety of areas where progress towards achieving targets of the Healthy Cities Project can be achieved.
3. The monitoring and research into the effectiveness of these pilot projects.
4. Exchange of ideas and experience with other cities.
5. Mutual support, collaboration and learning between the cities of Europe'.

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## PROGRESS REPORT FROM PROGRAMME COMMITTEES

- (i) ***Special Hospital Care Programme Committee Report***  
On a proposal by Mrs. Clune, seconded by Cllr. Dunne, it was agreed to he report.

The following matters were dealt with in the report:

- (i) Programme Manager's service report.
- (ii) Development of services in Community Care Area No. 6 and in James Connolly Memorial Hospital
- (iii) The arrangements for a special meeting of the Committee to be held on 13th September in St. Loman's Hospital
- (iv) The arrangements for the September meeting of the Committee to be held in conjunction with the official opening of the Lincara Centre in Bray

- (ii) ***General Hospital Care Programme Committee***

On a proposal by Cllr. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. Hawkins, it was agreed to adopt the report.

The following matters were dealt with in the report

- (i) The grant of planning permission for the proposed acute geriatric assessment/rehabilitation unit at St. Columcille's Hospital
- (ii) Progress report on remedial works to existing buildings at Naas General Hospital
- (iii) Update report on the proposed pilot project for Community Care Area 7 (Community Ward Scheme)
- (iv) Report on the collection of Farmers' Health Contributions
- (v) Panels of Contractors for non-capital works
- (vi) Progress report on the proposed re-opening of units 2,5 and 10 in James Connolly Memorial Hospital in association with the Special Hospital Care Programme
- (vii) Report on services in District Hospital, Baltinglass.

Following a discussion on the provision of long-stay beds for chronically iii elderly patients to which Dr. Masterson, Dr. Hawkins, Dr. McCarthy. Mrs. Clune, Cllr. Callely and Dr. O'Hertihy contributed it was noted that a full report on services for the elderly would be available for discussion at the Special meeting of our Board arranged for 19th October. 1988.

- (iii) ***Community Care Programme Committee***

On a proposal by Dr. McCarthy, seconded by Dr. Hawkins, it was agreed to adopt the report.

The report dealt with the Special Meeting of the Committee held on 25 August 1988 to consider the provisions of the Child Care Bill 1988.

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## NOTICE OF MOTION

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Dr. D. Fitzpatrick T.D.

*'That the Eastern Health Board circulate to all members of their staff who are dealing with the public a copy of the guidelines for staff drawn up by the National Association for the Deaf. Also that in all public offices of the Eastern Health Board the guidelines for access to staff and buildings, as drawn up by the National Association for the Deaf, be implemented'.*

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Dillion Byrne and following a discussion to which Deputy Fitzpatrick, Deputy Durkan. Prof. Doyle. Dr. O'Boyle and Cllr. Dillion Byrne contributed was agreed.

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## CORRESPONDENCE

Three items of correspondence were circulated as referred to in items 1. to 3. of the Chief Executive Officer's report.

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## OTHER BUSINESS

Following a discussion on dental services to which Deputy Durkan, Mrs Clune and Dr Keane contributed It was agreed to held a Special Meeting of our Board later in the year at which the comprehensive report of the Deputy Chief Executive Officer had undertaken to propose on this subject would be considered.

In response to an enquiry from Dr. Hawkins, Mr. Hickey, Deputy Chief Executive Officer indicated that a report on the Child Psychiatric Service in Co. Wicklow would be presented to the Special Hospital Care Programme Committee.

The meeting concluded at 7.00 p.m.

CORRECT: K.J. Hickey.  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer



Chairman