



EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of Proceedings of Monthly Meeting held
in
The Boardroom, St Mary's Hospital, Chapelizod, Dublin 20 on
Thursday, 6 April 1989 at 6 pm.

PRESENT

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Cllr O Bennett | Mrs B Bonar |
| Cllr I Callely | Cllr M Carroll |
| Dr R Corcoran | Mrs D Clune |
| Dr P Devitt | Cllr J Dillon Byrne |
| Cllr P Dunne | Ald A FitzGerald |
| Cllr C Flood TD | Cllr M Gannon |
| Cllr A Glenn | Cllr A Groome |
| Cllr W J Harvey | Cllr F Hynes |
| Dr D I Keane | Cllr T Keenan |
| Dr P McCarthy | Mr G McGuire |
| Cllr C Murphy | Ms M Nealon |
| Dr J O'Boyle | Dr B O'Herlihy |
| Cllr J Reilly | Mr R Roche TD |

APOLOGIES

Cllr B Briscoe TD, Dr R Hawkins, Cllr P Hickey, Cllr L O'Neill

IN THE CHAIR

Cllr A Groome

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr K J Hickey, A/Chief Executive Officer
Mr J Doyle, A/Programme Manager Community Care
Mr M Walsh, A/Programme Manager Special Hospital Care
Mr S O'Brien, A/Programme Manager General Hospital Care
Mr L Kavanagh, Personnel Officer
Mr J N McNee, Management Services Officer
Mr M Gallagher, Finance Officer
Mr M O'Connor, Secretary

35/1989

CONDOLENCES

On the proposal of the Chairman votes of sympathy were passed with the following:

1. Mrs Ena O'Mahoney, Matron, St Clare's Home, on the death of her sister.
2. Mr Kieran Woods, Clinical Psychologist, on the death of his father.
3. Mr Tom Kelleher, Chief Nursing Officer (Area 2), on the death of his father.
4. Ms Lorraine Murray, Community Welfare Officer, Area 6, on the death of her father.
5. Dr Sylvia Eakins. Area Medical Officer, Bray, on the death of her husband.
6. The family of Joe Lambe, Deputy Nursing Officer. St Brendan's Hospital.
7. The family of Margaret Condron, Deputy Nursing Officer, St Loman's Hospital.
8. The family of Kathleen Smyth, Attendant, Cherry Orchard Hospital.
9. The family of Mary Bray, Attendant. Cherry Orchard Hospital.

36/1989

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

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

'The following items are for information only and are not for debate:

1. ***Special meeting - Services for the Elderly***
I wish to remind members that the special meeting of our Board to consider future policy in relation to services for the elderly will be held on Thursday, 20 April 1989 at 6 pm in the Boardroom, St Mary's Hospital, Chapelizod.
2. ***May and June Board Meeting***
In 1988 the May meeting of our Board was held in St Vincent's Hospital, Athy, and the June meeting was held in St Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum.

With the members' agreement it is proposed to hold the May meeting this year in St Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum and the June meeting in St Vincent's Hospital, Athy.

3. ***Official Functions***

Arrangements have been made for the following functions:

- (i) 14 April - Dedication of new Theatre Suite in St Columcille's Hospital to the memory of Councillor John Sweeney.
- (ii) 21 April - Opening of new Day Room in the District Hospital, Wicklow.
- (iii) 27 April - Presentation of Badges and Certificates to Nurses at James Connolly Memorial Hospital. Blanchardstown.

- (iv) 1 May - Opening of the Department of the Elderly in St Columcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown.

Members will receive their invitations in due course

4. *Association of Health Boards Conference. Limerick, 12 to 13 May 1989*
Members have been notified of the Association of Health Boards' Conference to be held in Limerick from 12 to 13 May 1989.
Members who wish to attend should give their names to the Secretary.
5. At the special meeting of our Board held on 15 March I informed members regarding the attendance of the Taoiseach at a function in Bru Chaoimhin on 8 April to mark the occasion of 100th birthday of one of the residents.
It has since been confirmed that the Taoiseach will not be attending the function.
A special mass will be celebrated in the Bru Chaoimhin oratory at 2.30 pm following which the 'Centenarial Bounty' will be presented on behalf of the President of Ireland.
A number of elected representatives have been invited by the family to attend.'

37/1989

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 2 MARCH AND OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 15 MARCH 1989.

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 2 March 1989, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr Gannon, seconded by Cllr Dunne.

The minutes of the special meeting held on 15 March 1989, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr Dunne, seconded by Dr O'Herlihy.

38/1989

QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

On a proposal by Mrs Clune, seconded by Cllr Callely, it was agreed to answer the questions which had been lodged:

1. *Cllr L O'Neill*

'To ask the Chief Executive Officer what are the incidences of Legionnaires Disease in the Eastern Health Board area, has the Eastern Health Board been able to pinpoint the cause of it, what provision is made for people who would have contacted the disease and what are the long term after-effects of the disease?'

Reply

Three cases of Legionnaires Disease were notified in the Eastern Health Board area in 1988. No cases were reported in 1986 or 1987. Mild cases of the disease are likely to occur without being identified. The three cases notified in 1988 were isolated cases with no connection between them. It is difficult to pinpoint the source of infection in such cases and no firm conclusions could be reached as to the source of infection in any of them. Outbreaks of the disease which occurred in the UK in recent years were usually traced to infected spray from wet cooling towers which are part of the air conditioning systems of large hospitals, factories or office blocks.

The disease itself is a Pneumonia-like illness. A full recovery is usual but there is a 10% mortality among elderly people

No special provision is necessary for persons who contract the disease. Patients are entitled to the appropriate medical services under the Health and Social Welfare Acts. It is not a prescribed disease under the Occupational Injuries Legislation or the Infectious Diseases Legislation.

2. *Cllr J Dillon Byrne*

'Can the Chief Executive Officer say if/or not a Dental Clinic will be provided at Edenmore Health Centre?'

Reply

The Dental Clinic in Edenmore was a single surgery clinic with all the attendant disadvantages of such a clinic i.e no service if dentist is absent, difficulty in providing emergency services, etc.

Dental services for Edenmore are being provided from Kilbarrack and Coolock where there are a number of dentists and where service is, therefore, always available for emergencies. Both centres are within 2 miles distance of Edenmore and on a bus route passing through Edenmore.

3. *Cllr J Dillon Byrne*

'Could the Chief Executive Officer explain the process where the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Women's Rights was reported as criticising the Eastern Health Board for the continuing delay in the completion of a report on the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre to enable the Centre to receive their promised allocation of £120,000 and to say what is the position/outcome of this report at this moment?'

Reply

A review of the services currently provided by the Rape Crisis Centre, and the financial situation related to same, was undertaken by our Board in December, 1988. The service review is being carried out under the direction of Mr Brian Glanville, Director of Psychology and the financial review was under the direction of Mr Martin Gallagher, Finance Officer.

The financial review was completed without undue delay. The service review was delayed mainly because of difficulties related to the non-availability of information required to complete a detailed questionnaire given to the Rape Crisis Centre on 20 December. However, our Board's Director of Psychology was informed by the Centre on 7 March that the necessary data base programme for the outstanding information was in place and that the collection of the necessary statistical data was proceeding.

Neither of the two grants i.e of £20,000 and £100,000 announced in favour of the Rape Crisis Centre was unconditional and had to be considered in the context of our Board's review of the Centre's activities.

In view of the pressure on the Centre from the Revenue Commissioners regarding a debt which was to be the subject of a court hearing on 1 March a special concessionary arrangement was made under which funds were provided to enable the Centre to discharge a debt of £90,452 at a joint meeting with representatives of the Revenue Commissioners on 28 February.

The payment of any further monies to the Centre must be deferred pending completion of the service review.

In conveying the above information to the Chairwoman of the Joint Committee on Women's Rights, her attention has been drawn to the fact that our Board had been quite wrongly and unfairly criticised in the media for delay in completing the review.

4. *Cllr M Gannon*

'To ask the Chief Executive Officer, in view of representations made for the provision of a cervical smear testing service in Rowlagh Health Centre, to report on the present position and to indicate when it will be provided.'

Reply

Screening Clinics are held at the Health Centre at Boot Road, Clondalkin monthly. Women from the Rowlagh area can attend this clinic, preferably by appointment. General Practitioners in the Rowlagh area have confirmed that they provide cervical screening services. This service is free for medical card holders and for women availing themselves of ante and post natal services through their local family doctor.

The question of providing screening clinics at Rowlagh is being kept under review by the Director of Community Care and her team, who continually review the needs of the people of the area.

5. *Cllr M Gannon*

'To ask the Chief Executive Officer, in view of representations made, to indicate when it is proposed to re-establish the ante-natal clinics in Rowlagh Health Centre.'

Reply

An ante-natal clinic was held each week by the Coombe Maternity Hospital at Rowlagh Health Centre with the co-operation of our Board.

Because of a fall-off in the number of attendances, the hospital cancelled these clinics in May 1987.

Discussions entered into with the Coombe Hospital in an effort to have the ante-natal clinics at both Rowlagh and Tallaght re-commenced, are still on-going.

In the meantime general practitioners in the area are providing combined ante-natal care.

39/1989

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

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

1. I have circulated, with the papers for the meeting, copies of:

- (a) Department of Health Circular 28 February, 1989 regarding the Measles/Mumps/Rubella Immunisation Programme

It will be seen from the statistics regarding the current uptake of the MMR Vaccine that the uptake in our Board's area is below the national average. In this context I wish to advise

members that arrangements have been made, in consultation with the Directors of Community Care, to ensure that the uptake of the vaccine is raised to a satisfactory level.

- (b) Letter 2 March 1989 from the Department of the Environment regarding the campaign to promote the wider use and availability of unleaded petrol.

It is, of course, in our interests as a Health Board to co-operate in the furtherance of this campaign and this is being done. The position regarding the feasibility of using unleaded petrol in our Board's fleet of vehicles is currently under examination.

- (c) Letter 9 March, 1989 from the Department of Health notifying increases in the maximum rates of certain allowances with effect from 24 July 1989.

Our allocation for 1989 will be adjusted to take account of these increases.

- (d) A copy of the programme approved by the Commission of the European Communities in the context of the European Year of Information on Cancer. The projects will be part funded by the EEC Commission.

2. It is with regret that I have to inform members that I have received notice of his resignation from Mr Liam Kavanagh, Personnel Officer, to take up an appointment as Group Personnel Manager with B&I Limited.

I am sure members will join with me in wishing Mr Kavanagh every success in his future career.

3. '999' Ambulance Control

I wish to inform members that the '999' Ambulance Control for the Dublin area was transferred to the Eastern Health Board Control Centre at James's Street on the 23 March 1989. This is in accordance with the agreed recommendations in the report of the Committee representative of Dublin Corporation, Eastern Health Board and the Departments of Health and Environment, chaired by Professor E McQuaid, NIHE Limerick. The situation will continue to be monitored by a joint committee as agreed.

4. *Food Hygiene (Amendment) Regulations 1989*

I have circulated, for the information of members, copies of the Food Hygiene (Amendment) Regulations 1989 which were received today and which come into operation on 1 May 1989.

These regulations are being referred to the Community Care Programme Committee for consideration. The new regulations relate to food stalls and mobile food vehicles.

5. *Disposal of Property at Mourn Road. Drimnagh. Dublin 12*

It is proposed to dispose of a small piece of property at Mourn Road, Drimnagh, Dublin 12 which is no longer required for our purposes.

In accordance with usual practice a Section 83 Notice will be circulated for consideration at the May meeting of our Board.'

Mrs Clune, Cllr Hynes, Cllr Carroll, Cllr Dunne, Cllr Gannon, Dr O'Boyle and the Chairman expressed regret on hearing of Mr Kavanagh's resignation, paid tribute to him in respect of the courteous manner in which he discharged his duties and wished him well in his new appointment.

Mr Kavanagh, in response, thanked the members for their kind remarks.

In response to an enquiry from Cllr Callery regarding the target population for the MMR Vaccination. Prof O'Donnell, Dublin Medical Officer of Health, explained that the immunisation programme would continue to be focused on children aged 15 months to 2 years with the objective of achieving and maintaining a vaccination rate of 90%. During the period up to March 1990, the vaccine would also be made available, free-of-charge to children in the 2 to 5 years age group with the objective of achieving at least a 90% uptake.

40/1989

DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY AT 191 PEARSE ST. DUBLIN 2

The following Report No. 5/1989 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

'NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 83 of the Local Government Act, 1946 that it is proposed to dispose of the property described below which is no longer required for the purpose of the powers and duties of our Board.

Statutory Information

1. 191 Pearse Street, Dublin 2 (Former Office accommodation of Superintendent Registrar)
2. The said property was transferred to our Board by the Dublin Health Authority.
3. It is proposed to dispose of the property to Dublin University, Trinity College, College Green, Dublin 2, subject to our Board being given a 2 year and 9 month letting agreement on the strong room located in the building.
4. The consideration in respect of the disposal is £136,000.

At a meeting of our Board to be held after the expiration of ten clear days from the date of the sending of this Notice, our Board may resolve as follows:

- (a) That the disposal shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the resolution, or
- (b) That the disposal shall not be carried out.

If our Board resolves that the disposal shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the resolution, the disposal may, with the consent of the Minister, be carried out in accordance with those terms.

If our Board resolves that the disposal shall not be carried out, then the disposal shall not be carried out.

If our Board does not pass a resolution, the disposal may, with the consent of the Minister, be carried out.'

On a proposal by Cllr Dunne, seconded by Cllr Callely, it was agreed to adopt the proposal contained in the report. The Chief Executive Officer undertook to communicate with Cllr Hynes regarding a procedural point raised by him.

41/1989

FILLING OF VACANCIES

The following Report No 8/1989 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted.

'Due to the death of Councillor John Sweeney the following vacancies have arisen:

- (a) Association of Health Boards
- (b) Meath Hospital Board
- (c) Budget Working Group
- (d) Committee on the service needs and problems of the Ballymun area
- (e) Committee for Headquarters Accommodation

A second vacancy exists on the Ballymun Committee due to the resignation of Deputy P de Rossa.

The filling of these vacancies is a matter for our Board.'

The following members were elected to fill the vacancies:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Association of Health Boards: | Cllr C Murphy |
| Meath Hospital Board: | Dr R Corcoran |
| Budget Working Group: | Ms M Nealon |
| Ballymun Committee: | Cllr T Keenan |
| | Cllr L O'Neill |
| Committee for Headquarters Accommodation: | Cllr W Harvey |

42/1989

PROGRESS REPORTS FROM PROGRAMME COMMITTEES1. *Special Hospital Care Programme Committee*

On a proposal by Mrs Clune, seconded by Cllr Dillon Byrne, it was agreed to adopt the report.

The following matters were dealt with in the report:

- (a) Meeting held in the North Road Day Centre, Finglas, at which reports on the Day Centre, Tolco Ltd, developments with the Parents and Friends of St Paul's and a comprehensive progress report were considered.
- (b) A recommendation to the Board that the Minister for Health be requested to receive a deputation to seek the necessary resources to develop community-based psychiatric services in Co Kildare in line with overall Health Board policy.

It was agreed that the deputation should consist of the following members:

Cllr A Groome, Chairman, Cllr B Durkan, TD, Cllr J Reilly, Dr R Corcoran, Mrs D Clune.

2. **General Hospital Care Programme Committee**

On a proposal by Dr O'Herlihy, seconded by Cllr Callely, it was agreed to adopt the report.

The following matters were dealt with in the report:

- (a) Update on patients' comfort allowances.
- (b) Progress report on Day Room and General Practitioner Access Scheme at Wicklow District Hospital.
- (c) Progress report on work at St Joseph's Ward and the Physiotherapy/Occupational Therapy Department in St Columcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown.
- (d) Progress report on the Psychiatric Unit/Boiler House and ancillary accommodation and remedial work at Naas General Hospital.
- (e) Feasibility of introducing a General Practitioner Access Scheme at Baltinglass Hospital.
- (f) The establishment of a Joint Review Group to define the future role of the James Connolly Memorial Hospital and Department of Health approval to the appointment of an Accident and Emergency Consultant to the Hospital.
- (g) Report on services in St Mary's Hospital, Chapelizod.

3. **Community Care Programme Committee**

On a proposal by Cllr Carroll, seconded by Ms Nealon, it was agreed to adopt the report.

The following matters were dealt with in the report:

- (a) Form of agreement with General Practitioners for the provision of General Medical Services.
- (b) Report on Community Drugs Scheme.
- (c) Policy Review Report on BCG Vaccination.
- (d) Report on services in Community Care Area 8.
- (e) Recommendation that a review of the Public Health Nursing Service be undertaken.

43/1989

NOTICES OF MOTION

- 1. It was agreed, at the request of Cllr M Gannon, to defer to the May meeting his motion regarding the provision of an out-patient facility and casualty unit at Cherry Orchard Hospital.
- 2. The following motion was proposed by Cllr I Callery and seconded by Cllr R Roche, TD:

'That the Health Board recognises the need for aftercare, day and residential services for school leavers from St Paul's, Beaumont and make available, or procure, the appropriate capital and revenue resources to provide this service'

In noting that the Programme Manager had reported to the Special Hospital Care Programme Committee on this matter at its meeting held on 9 March 1989 and that he would report further at the next meeting of the Committee, the thrust of the motion was accepted.

44/1989

CORRESPONDENCE

Five items of correspondence, as referred to in the Chief Executive Officer's Report, copies of which had been circulated, were noted.

The meeting concluded at 7 pm.

CORRECT:K J Hickey
A/Chief Executive Officer.

- 

Chairman