

EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of Proceedings of Monthly Meeting

Held In

The Boardroom, St. Mary's Hospital, Chapelizod, Dublin 20

On

Thursday, 3rd August, 1989 at 6 p.m.

PRESENT

Cllr. O. Bennett	Cllr. M. Carroll
Mrs. D. Clune	Dr. P. Devitt
Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne	Cllr. P. Dunne
Cllr. B. J. Durkan, T.D.	Ald. A. Fitzgerald
Cllr. Dr. D. Fitzpatrick, T.D.	Cllr. C. Flood, T.D.
Cllr. M. Gannon	Cllr. A. Glenn
Cllr. A. Groome	Dr. R. Hawkins
Cllr. P. Hickey	Cllr. F. Hynes
Dr. D. I. Keane	Cllr. C. Murphy
Ms. M. Nealon	Dr. B. O'Herlihy
Cllr. J. Reilly	Cllr. R. Roche. T.D.

APOLOGIES

**Cllr. I. Callely, T.D., Dr. R. Corcoran. Cllr. W.J. Harvey,
Cllr. T. Keenan, Mr. G. McGuire. Dr. J. O'Boyle**

IN THE CHAIR

Cllr. A. Groome

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. K. J. Hickey, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. F. Donohue, Programme Manager
Mr. J. Doyle, A/Programme Manager, Community Care
Mr. S. O'Brien, A/Programme Manager, General Hospital Care
Mr. M. Gallagher, A/Programme Manager, Special Hospital Care
Mr. G. Brennan, Technical Services Officer
Mr. N. McNee, Management Services Officer
Ms. M. Kelly, A/Personnel Officer
Mr. P. O'Rourke, A/Secretary

86/1989

CONDOLENCES

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

1. Ms. Michele Clear, Social Worker, Community Care Area 3 on the death of her father.
2. Cllr. P. Hickey, on the death of his brother.

87/1989

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

The Chairman congratulated Cllr. Frank Hynes on his election as Chairman of Wicklow County Council.

88/1989

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL AND MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 6TH JULY 1989 AND OF SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 12TH JULY, 1989.

The minutes of the Annual and Monthly meetings held on 6th July, 1989 and of the special meeting held on 12th July, 1989, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by CUT Gannon, seconded by Cllr. Dillon Byrne.

89/1989

QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

On a proposal by Cllr. Hynes, seconded by Dr. Hawkins it was agreed to answer the questions that had been lodged.

(i) *Cllr. L O'Neill*

'To ask the Chief Executive Officer what are the Eastern Health Board's intentions in relation to the St Helena's Resource Centre, Finglas South. Do the Eastern Health Board intend puffing out of this building and if so what are the plans to continue the services presently available in the Resource Centre?'

Reply

The Eastern Health Board's intention is to continue existing services of St. Helena's Resource Centre, Finglas South. Arrangements are being made to put in hand certain works required to maintain the premises.

(ii) *Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne*

- (a) What amount of funding is involved from the Eastern Health Board for Haven House?
- (b) How many staff are employed, and in what type of management structure operates at Haven House?
- (c) How many clients attend (ed) and what are the periods of stay at this Hostel since it opened?"

Reply

- (a) The running cost budget for Haven House for 1989 (from 15/2/1989) is £110.145
- (b) The day to day running of the shelter (twenty-four hours per day) is carried out by:

Supervisor	1
Assistant Supervisors	2
Attendants	3

There are also two Counsellors attached to the shelter who work in co-operation with the Supervisor and Assistant Supervisors in carrying out their duties but who are ultimately responsible to the Superintendent Community Welfare Officer, Services for the Homeless, under whose overall control Haven House operates.

- (c) From 15/2/89 - 30/6/89

Women Alone	63
Women and Children	89 women
	+
	192 children
Children Alone	29
Total	373

Average length of stay: 5.5 days

Occupancy: 73%

Number of cases staying over seven nights: 41

(iii) *Cllr. Dr. Dermot Fitzpatrick. T.D.*

“How much money has the Eastern Health Board spent in each of the last four years on housing subsidies or rent subsidy?”

Reply

The following shows expenditure ex. Community Welfare funds for the years in question.

YEAR EXPENDITURE

£

1985	3,525,084
1986	4,126,847
1987	4,537,788
1988	4,856,566

90/1989

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

(i) **WOMEN'S AID**

Since the Special meeting of our Board held on 12th July, 1989 further discussions have taken place with the representatives nominated by the Council and the Subscribers, respectively, of Women's Aid Ltd.

I am glad to advise members that the details of a new Agreement between the Eastern Health Board and Women's Aid Ltd., have now been agreed on all sides. I have circulated, for the information of members, details of the new Agreement now being recommended for acceptance.

(ii) **ST. HELENA'S FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE. FINGLAS**

At the last meeting of our Board I was requested to examine the position in relation to the Family Resource Centre. South Finglas which operates under the aegis of the Eastern Health Board in a premises owned by Dublin Corporation.

The question of work required to the premises has since been considered and arrangements have been made to put the following work in hand at an estimated cost of £15,000:-

Fire precautions including new accesses to fire escape, alterations to fire escape, two fire doors

New main entrance door

Roof and window repairs

General renovation and decoration

(III) **AMBULANCE CONTROL - FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS**

The Ambulance Control Centre at the Loughlinstown Ambulance Base was transferred to the Ambulance Central Control Centre at 1, James's Street, with effect from Monday 24th July, 1989.

From that date all requests for emergency or non-emergency ambulance services will be directed to Central Ambulance Control at 1, James's Street To date the revised service is operating satisfactorily.

(IV) **GROUP PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE FOR BOARD MEMBERS**

I have circulated, for the information of members, correspondence from the IPBMI Ltd regarding the Personal Accident Scheme which expires on 31st August next It will be noted that cover for all members currently insured will be renewed automatically for the year 1989/1990 and that premiums remain unaltered.

Our Board has previously agreed that cover under Scheme A should be arranged by us on behalf of all Board members and that any member wishing to join Scheme B may do so on payment of the extra premium involved. Any member wishing to change to or from Scheme B should notify Mr. Matt O'Connor, Board Secretary, before the end of August

(v) **HOME START VOLUNTEER PROJECT - BLANCHARDSTOWN.**

I have just been advised by the Minister for Health that he has approved of a grant of £35,000 from the Health Allocation of the National Lottery for the continuation of the Homestart Volunteer Project in Blanchardstown in 1989.

There are a number of Homestart schemes operating in Britain and in Northern Ireland and the Blanchardstown Homestart is the first of its kind here and is being run as a pilot scheme. It is a voluntary home visiting service for mothers of children under 5 years and is being run by a Social Worker on secondment from the Eastern Health Board. The scheme has been very successful to date and a second group of volunteers has been undergoing training.

(vi) CAMPAIGN FOR USE OF UNLEADED PETROL

I have circulated, for the information of members, copy of a further letter and promotional material from the Department of the Environment regarding the campaign to promote the wider use and availability of unleaded petrol, which is being intensified. We will continue to co-operate in distributing the promotional material for this campaign.

(vii) FOOTWEAR SCHEME 1989/90

I received a detailed circular S.A.4/89 from the Department of Social Welfare this afternoon in relation to the S.W.A. Footwear Scheme 1989/90. Copies will be circulated to Board members and the matter can be considered at the next meeting of the Community Care Programme Committee."

Cllr. Dillon Byrne welcomed the progress in relation to Women's Aid and stated that there were still a number of issues outstanding:

- (I) Conditions of employment of staff
- (II) Provision of cleaning and catering services.

In response the Chief Executive Officer stated that he had given an undertaking that existing staff would be continued, that there would be no worsening of conditions and that, while it was intended to review the staff mix at the Refuge, this would be done in consultation with the staff and offers of redeployment would be made if appropriate. In relation to the provision of cleaning and catering services he stated that it was intended that the present ethos of self-help should continue and that every effort would be made to ensure that the Refuge does not become institutionalised.

Deputy Durkan asked that the possibility of extending the Homestart Service to provide counselling for large families living in overcrowded conditions be examined.

91/1989

**DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY AT JAMES CONNOLLY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL,
BLANCHARDSTOWN**

The following report no. 21/1989 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 purposes of the powers and duties of our Board.

STATUTORY INFORMATION

1. 10.77 acres running either side of the Tolcka River at Blanchardstown, Co. Dublin alongside the new western by-pass circular motorway.
2. The said property was transferred to our Board by the Dublin Health Authority.
3. It is proposed to dispose of the property to the Dublin County Council.
4. The consideration in respect of the disposal is 05,000.

At a meeting of our Board to be held after the expiration of ten clear days from the date of 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. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. Hickey, It was agreed unanimously that the proposal contained in the report be adopted.

92/1989

REPORT OF BUDGET WORKING GROUP

Report no. F 4/1989 (Copy filed with official minute) was noted by the Board.

93/1989

PROGRESS REPORTS FROM PROGRAMME COMMITTEES

1. Special Hospital Care Programme Committee

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

The following matters were dealt with in the report:-

- (a) Annual General Meeting
- (b) Progress reports on Alcoholism Services, development of Day Centre in Ballymun, mental health centre in Fairview and on staff redeployment
- (c) Mental Handicap Services - Central Planning Committee

- (d) **Facilities provided at Camphill Village - Dunshane House.**

In response to a query from Dr. Hawkins the Chief Executive Officer undertook to examine the level of temporary staff employed in the Psychiatric Service In Wicklow and to ensure an early appointment of a permanent Clinical Director.

2. **General Hospital Care Programme Committee**

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

The following matters were dealt with in the report:-

- (a) **Annual General Meeting**
- (b) **Review Group on future role of James Connolly Memorial Hospital.**
- (c) **Baltinglass District Hospital - General Practitioner Access Scheme**
- (d) **Accident & Emergency 24 hour service**
- (e) **Progress report on farmers' health contributions.**
- (f) **Report on services in Bru Chaoimhin**

Following a discussion to which Cllr. Dr. Fitzpatrick, Cllr. Gannon and Dr. Hawkins contributed and to which the Chief Executive Officer and Programme Manager, General Hospital Care replied, the need for the development of E.N.T., and Paediatric out-patient services at James Connolly Memorial Hospital was noted.

In relation to the Committee's recommendation that the Minister be requested to receive a deputation regarding additional funding, it was agreed to await a response to the submission already made.

3. **Community Care Programme Committee**

On a proposal by Cllr. Dunne, seconded by Mrs. Bonar, it was agreed to adopt the Report.

The following matters were dealt with in the report:-

- (a) **Annual General Meeting**
- (b) **Report of General Medical Services (Payments) Board 1988.**
- (c) **Circular 7/89 from the Department of Health on special items of service within the G.M.S.**
- (d) **Circular SA2/89 from the Department of Social Welfare Supplementary Rates of Welfare Allowances from 24 July. 1989.**
- (e) **Report on services in County Wicklow**

Cllr. Murphy requested that a report outlining progress to date in the two areas identified by the Board as priority areas for Dental Services be brought to the November meeting of the Board.

In response to a query from Dr. Hawkins regarding the new G.M.S. Scheme, Mr. Donohue, Programme Manager stated that it was expected that the majority of outstanding claims would be dealt with within the next month. He stated that a number of problems had arisen over claims which were incorrectly completed and which required checking and amendment.

Dr. O'Herlihy requested that one meeting of the Community Care Programme Committee each year be set aside for discussion on environmental health services in the Dublin area.

94/1989

NOTICES OF MOTION

1. The following motion was proposed by Cllr. Gannon and seconded by Cllr. Carroll:-

"That the Chief Executive Officer arrange for the provision of an out-patient facility and a casualty unit at Cherry Orchard Hospital to serve the densely populated areas of Neilstown, Rowlagh, Quarryvale, Ronanstown, Palmerstown, Lucan etc."

While the terms of the proposal would be borne in mind the Chief Executive Officer stated that it was normal policy to locate these services in Acute General Hospitals, that Cherry Orchard Hospital was an Infectious Diseases Hospital and did not have the staff resources, equipment etc. to provide a casualty service.

2. The following motion was proposed by Deputy Roche and seconded by Cllr. Hynes.

"That the Board be provided with a full report on the present state of the Health Centre, Camew, and be given an indication of the Board's plans to upgrade the Centre."

In reply the Chief Executive Officer stated that the Health Centre which had been designed for use by a Dispensary Doctor had been extended to include accommodation for a nurse and a dentist. Further space will become available in January 1990 which it is hoped to adapt for use by an additional nurse and as a dental recovery room. It is planned to carry out some minor renovations and decoration in the premises before the end of the year.

3. The following motion was proposed by Cllr. Dillon Byrne:

"That this Board congratulate the Government and Minister for Health in finally coming to a decision regarding a proper payment to the Haemophiliacs Society in recognition of the members who are HIV positive."

The motion was seconded by Ald. Alexis FitzGerald and agreed unanimously.

3/8/1989

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96/1989

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter dated 20th June. 1989 from Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd. regarding the Group Personal Accident Insurance for members of Local Authorities, copies of which were circulated, was noted.

97/1989

OTHER BUSINESS

In response to a request from Deputy Durkan and Deputy Roche regarding the levels of Supplementary Welfare Allowances in Counties Dublin, KiWare and Wicklow. the Chief Executive Officer agreed to have this matter examined. The arrangements for supply of incontinence wear in Wicklow would also be examined.

The meeting colcluded at 7.20 pm.

Correct: K.J. Hickey,
Chief Executive Officer.



Ivor Kelly

Chairman



**EASTERN
HEALTH
BOARD**

**boro
SLAINTE
ANOIRTHIR**

**1 James's Street
Dublin 8
Tel 537951
Telex 92668**

Report No. F4/89

To/ Each Member of the

Eastern Health Board

The Budget Working Group met on Wednesday 26th July, 1989 to review our Board's current financial position and prospects. The following summary report is given for the information of all members:-

- (i) The financial position as at 30th June, 1989 was fully considered - details attached.**

In relation to the uncontrollable variances e.g. Drugs Refund Scheme and Disabled Persons Maintenance Allowance I advised members of the Budget Working Group of my request to the Minister for Health for an early meeting to discuss these items.

With regard to the controllable variances the Budget Working Group noted the detailed measures which have been put in place in order to bring these back into line before the end of this year.

- (ii) The Budget Working Group reviewed in detail the**

submission drawn up by the Chief Executive Officer to the Department of Health for an allocation from the special funding which the Minister recently announced would be available for immediate improvements in acute hospital services i.e. A & E services, re-opening of beds, avoidance of planned bed closures, reduction in waiting lists and opening of new units including equipping of same. The outcome of this submission is currently awaited.

- (iii) The Budget Working Group also reviewed in detail a further submission drawn up by the Chief Executive Officer in relation to other priority service requirements e.g. dental services and -mental handicap services.**

EASTERN HEALTH BOARD
FINANCIAL POSITION AT 30TH JUNE, 1989

	£ 000	£ 000
Budget Variance at 30th June, 1989		2,623
Add: Costs of special programmes carried out at the request of the Department of Health which require to be funded by an additional allocation:		
- M.M.R. Scheme	88	
- Hepatitis B Vaccination	50	
Add: Additional unfunded costs of implementing Labour Court award covering extra overtime payments for Non Consultant Hospital Doctors	69	207
Total Budget Variance		<u>£ 2,830 U</u>

Suiary Analysis Of Factors Accounting For The Budget Variance

<u>Uncontrollable Variances</u>	£ 000	
1. Refund of Drugs Scheme	1,021	
2. Disabled Persons Maintenance	195	
3. M.M.R. Scheme costs	88	
4. Hepatitis B Vaccination costs	50	
5. Revised overtime arrangements for Non Consultant Hospital Doctors	69	
Total Un-controllable Variances		<u>£ 1,423 U</u>

Analysis of Controllable Variances

	£ 000	
1. Ambulance Service	300	
2. Technical Service	590	
3. Other Running Costs Overrun (net)	517	
		<u>£ 1,407 U</u>

I am pleased to inform Board members that the meeting which I requested with the Minister for Health took place today at which our Board's current financial position and requirements as referred to above were noted and discussed. A response will be forthcoming on these matters as soon as the Minister has had an opportunity of considering the position further. I shall up-date members on further developments and in the meantime the situation will be kept under review by the Budget Working Group.

Property

Members of the Budget Working Group agreed to recommend to our Board that our interest in a small plot of ground on the St. James' s Hospital campus should be surrendered to the St. James's Hospital Board. This plot was the subject of an Agreement for Lease deated 22nd September, 1980 between the Eastern Health Board and the Irish Foundation for Human Development. It is now more appropriate that this plot should be held by the St. James's Hospital Board under the same terms as the original lease granted by the Eastern Health Board dated 15th April, 1974 to the St. James's Hospital Board. The St. James's Hospital Board has agreed to take over the rights and obligations of the Eastern Health Board under the Agreement for lease with the Irish Foundation for Human Development.

Cllr. A. Groome

Chairman

3rd August, 1989