

EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**Minutes of Proceedings of Monthly Meeting****Held In****The Boardroom, St. Mary's Hospital, Chapelizod, Dublin 20****On****Thursday, 7th September, 1989 at 6 p.m.*****PRESENT***

Mrs. B. Bonar	Cllr. B. Briscoe, T.D.
Cllr. I. Callely, T.D.	Cllr. M. Carroll
Dr. R. Corcoran	Mrs. D. Clune
Dr. P. Devitt	Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne
Cllr. P. Dunne	Cllr. B.J. Durkan, T.D.
Cllr. Dr. D. Fitzpatrick, T.D.	Cllr. C. Flood, T.D.
Cllr. M. Gannon	Cllr. A. Glenn
Dr. R. Hawkins	Cllr. F. Hynes
Dr. D.I. Keane	Prof. J. McCormick
Mr. G. McGuire	Dr. J. Masterson
Dr. J. O'Boyle	Dr. B. O'Herlihy
Cllr. J. Reilly	Cllr. R. Roche, T.D.

APOLOGIES

Cllr. O. Bennett, Prof. J.S. Doyle, Cllr. A. Groome, Cllr. W.J. Harvey, Cllr. P. Hickey, Cllr. T. Keenan, Cllr. C. Murphy, Ms. M. Nealon.
Cllr. L. O'Neill

IN THE CHAIR

Cllr. I. Callely, T.D.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. K.J. Hickey, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. F. Donohue, Programme Manager, Community Care
Mr. M. Walsh, A/Programme Manager, Special Hospital Care
Mr. M. Gallagher, A/Programme Manager, General Hospital Care
Prof. B. O'Donnell, Dublin Medical Officer of Health
Mr. N. McNee, Management Services Officer
Ms. M. Kelly, A/Personnel Officer
Mr. M. O'Connor, Secretary

Members asked that their best wishes for a speedy recovery be conveyed to the Chairman who was hospitalised earlier in the day.

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CONDOLENCES

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

1. Kieran Roche, Senior Social Worker, on the death of his mother.
2. Ken McCartney, Internal Auditor, on the death of his mother.
3. Edel Murphy, General Hospital Care Programme, on the death of her father.

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CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

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

1. **Headquarters Accommodation**

A meeting of the Committee appointed in connection with the preparation of plans for the adaptation of Dr. Steeven's Hospital will be held on Monday 18th September, 1989 at 12 noon to receive an up-date report

2. **Meeting of Budget Working Group**

A meeting of the Budget Working Group will be held in St. Mary's Hospital on Wednesday, 20th September, 1989 at 11 am. to review our Board's financial position up to 31st July, 1989.

The usual written notice of these meetings will be issued."

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**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 3RD
AUGUST, 1989**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 3rd August, 1989, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr. Gannon, seconded by Cllr. Hynes.

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QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

On a proposal by Cllr. Dunne, seconded by Deputy Briscoe, it was agreed to answer the questions which had been lodged.

(i) *Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne*

“What services is the Eastern Health Board offering for:-

- (a) Rape cases (give details).
- (b) Child Sexual Abuse cases (give details).”

Reply

- (a) A medical assessment and treatment service for rape victims is provided at the Rotunda Hospital.

Our Board’s Psychiatric/Psychological Service provides psychiatric/psychological counselling services to those who suffer psychiatric/psychological effects in the immediate aftermath or in later life.

In addition the Rape Crisis Centre provides a counselling service to rape victims, towards which financial support is provided by our Board.

- (b) In accordance with guidelines issued by the Minister for Health, the Directors of Community Care and Medical Officers of Health have overall responsibility for the monitoring and co-ordination of the investigation and treatment of cases of child abuse, including child sexual abuse, occurring in their areas.

The guidelines emphasise the need for a multi-disciplinary approach to the investigation and monitoring of cases, the importance of close co-operation with outside agencies including the Gardai, the holding of case conferences which are an essential feature of inter-agency co-operation, the exchange of information between different professionals (medical, social work, nursing etc.) involved with the child and his family, assignment of key worker with responsibility for ensuring that agreed programmes are implemented and through whom all subsequent relevant information on the family is processed. In this regard the guidelines are complied with strictly.

In most cases the services of the investigation and treatment units at Temple Street and the Children’s Hospital, Crumlin are availed of early in the course of investigations. These are staffed by Child Psychiatrists, Psychologists, and Social Workers and have available to them the services of Consultants and other staffs of the hospitals where these are required. These two special units work closely, and are in daily contact, with the members of our Board’s Community Care Teams involved in this work.

Our Board’s Child Psychiatric and Child Guidance Services are also available and are used, as necessary, in the treatment of cases.

(ii) *Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne*

“Could the Chief Executive Officer inform the Board what is the area currently in use in St. Brendan’s Hospital, vis a vis, the total area of land owned by the Eastern Health Board.”

Reply

Our Board’s lands at SL Brendan’s Hospital total approx. 70 acres. Of these 13 acres are covered by buildings and their curtilages and approx. 20 acres of the land is currently availed of for patient circulation, recreation and amenity use.

(iii) *Cllr. L O’Neill*

“To ask the Chief Executive Officer in relation to the future of Baggot Street Hospital if the Eastern Health Board is satisfied with the funding for the hospital and if the Eastern Health Board would support the need for developing this hospital to provide general service to the community including accident and casualty treatment.”

Reply

Baggot Street Hospital is administered by our Community Care Programme and is funded in the context of the overall Programme’s Budget. It is not funded directly by the Department of Health.

The hospital is continuing to develop an extensive range of services as follows :-

- 35 Long Stay Beds for the elderly
- 15 Respite Beds for the elderly
- 13 (up to) G.P. access beds (7 local G.P. ‘s in scheme)
- Day Care Unit for the elderly (rehabilitation -16 places)
- Community Physiotherapy Department
- Allergy Clinic
- Speech Therapy Department
- Allergy Clinic
- Family Development Programme
- Radiography
- Phlebotomy
- A.I.D.S. Project
- Dental Clinic
- Child Developmental Clinic
- Incontinence Clinic
- Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages for area
- General Adult Psychiatry
- Child Psychiatry
- Alcoholic Treatment Programme
- Stoma Clinic (to start soon)
- Community Welfare Service (to start soon)

Discussions are still in progress relating to the provision of specialist clinics (e.g. varicose veins) by the 7 General Practitioners providing cover in the hospital and the question of a minor casualty facility there is still under consideration.

It is not envisaged that the hospital would provide major accident and emergency service as this requires the back up of services which are only available on the campus of an acute general hospital.

(iv) *Mr. G. McGuire*

“With regard to Unit B. St. Loman’s Hospital can the Chief Executive Officer outline:-

- (a) At what stage of planning is the proposed alternative facility for said unit?
- (b) As to whether there is a projected starting and completion date for this new facility?”

Reply

Planning of an alternative Unit(s) to Unit B at St Loman’s is at an advanced stage. However a number of important details of planning have yet to be resolved.

At this stage it is not possible to give a projected starting date. Work on the project is expected to take 12 months approx.”

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

1 National Lottery Proceeds. 1989

I have circulated, with the papers for the meeting, copies of letter dated 23rd August, 1989 from the Secretary of the Department of Health giving details of the amounts approved for a number of projects from the health allocation of the National Lottery proceeds.

The amount of £3,000 for the Consumer Association of Ireland (No. 6) was included in error and should be deleted from the letter.

2. Inspection of Meat and Meat Products

I have also circulated with the papers for the meeting copies of letter dated 30th August, 1989 from the Department of Health referring to changes in the arrangements for the inspection of meat and meat products, standards of hygiene etc. in abattoirs following the implementation of the major provisions of the Abattoirs Act from 1st September, 1989.

The future arrangements for meat control/inspection in abattoirs and at retail level are under discussion between the Departments of Health and Agriculture.

3 Government Action Programme aimed at increasing the capacity of Acute Hospital Service

I wish to bring the following matters to the attention of our Board arising from the above Programme.

- (I) The 24 hour Accident & Emergency service is being provided by each of the 6 participating Dublin hospitals from Monday last, 4th September 1989. The new service will be kept under review with representatives of the hospitals concerned.
- (II) As already reported to the General Hospital Care Committee monies have been made available to allow for the following:-

James Connolly Memorial Hospital

- Re-opening of Unit 8-20 beds
- Avoidance of planned closure of 24 beds
- Replacement of essential equipment

St. Mary's Hospital

- Re-opening of 20 beds
- Commissioning of remaining 25 beds for Young Chronic
- Sick and equipping of same.

Naas General Hospital

- Provision for increased day surgery

- (III) A monitoring system in relation to access to acute hospital services on the basis of medical need is being instituted from 1st September, 1989 in accordance with the letter from the Secretary of the Department of Health which I have circulated to members for their information.

Our Board's financial position for 1989 following the above will be reviewed in detail by the Budget Working Group at their next meeting on 20th September, 1989.

4 Women's Aid

I wish to advise members that the details of the proposed new agreement between the Eastern Health Board and Women's Aid which were circulated at the last meeting, have now been incorporated into a formal legal agreement which is being executed on behalf of both parties this week. It is intended that the new arrangements will commence within the next 2 weeks.

5. **Active Age Week. 1989**

Active Age Week 1989 will run from 1st to 8th October, 1989.

The activities for the week are being co-ordinated by a steering group with representation from our Board and the five Local Authorities in our area.

This year's activities, details of which will be circulated to members, will include.

- An open week in our Hospitals and Homes
- The launch of a nutritional education pack for the elderly at St. Mary's Hospital on Sunday 1st October, 1989.
- The inclusion of an Eastern Health Board stand in an Exhibition over 4 days during the week in Amotts Exhibition Hall.
- Co-sponsorship by the Eastern Health Board with the Electricity Supply Board in the production of an "Age and Opportunity" video.

6 **Voluntary Community Services Headquarters Project**

The Eastern Health Board, Dublin Corporation, the Department of Labour and some twenty voluntary groups have over the last two years or so been experimenting with the facilitating of the growth of the voluntary services sector by providing an office premises as a headquarters for groups whose activities are similar or ancillary to those provided by the Eastern Health Board and Dublin Corporation.

The concept is of a co-operatively run centre in which are located the headquarters of voluntary organisations, in which overhead costs such as lighting, heating, cleaning, maintenance - and costs of services such as space, receptionist, typing, photocopying, telephones, duplicating, conference room, interview room, postal address, answering service - are shared.

The experiment has been carried out for more than a year in 13 Christchurch Place with the aid of a FAS scheme and has been so successful that there are now many groups on the waiting list.

Unfortunately the experiment in its trial stage had to be housed in a pre-fabricated building which is at the end of its life and is due to be demolished within the next couple of months to make way for a redevelopment. It is proposed to accommodate the project in a building at North Brunswick Street formerly part of St. Laurences Hospital Complex once used as a staff residence and known as St John's Convent. The Health Board owns the freehold subject to a 99 year lease from 1931 now vested in the Minister for Health. It is proposed that the property would revert to the Board to enable it to accommodate the Community Services Project. In addition it is proposed to site the "Healthy Cities Project" office within the project, an Eastern Health Board Rehabilitation Unit in an office context, and a Voluntary Services Resource Centre to be provided by the Corporation.

Occupation would be by way of a "licence to use" - Staff of the Eastern Health Board and the Dublin Corporation will participate in the management of the complex. The terms of this licence and management arrangements are being drawn up.

Under the World Health Organisation's Healthy Cities Project, which encourages the development of "Models of Good Practice" or pilot projects where progress towards achieving targets of the Healthy Cities Project can be achieved, it is intended to use the Community Services Headquarters project as a contribution in the exchange of ideas and experiences within the "Healthy Cities" framework.

7. Proposed Disposal of Property

It is proposed to dispose of the following property which is no longer required for our Board's purposes (i) a site at 22 West Essex Street, Dublin 2, (ii) a portion of the site at Stillorgan Health Centre, and (iii) a 240 Sq. metre strip of land at Emmet Road Health Centre. Inchicore which is required by Dublin Corporation to facilitate a housing development for travellers.

In accordance with the usual practice Section 83 notices will be circulated for consideration at the October meeting of our Board."

Following expressions of concern regarding restrictions in the numbers of subventions being approved for residents of Nursing Homes the Chief Executive Officer informed the members that funds for increased numbers of subventions had been included in submissions to the Department of Health and that regular reports would be made to the General Hospital Care Programme Committee on the position in relation to this element of our services for the elderly.

Members welcomed the various measures announced under the Government's Action Programme aimed at increasing the capacity of the Acute Hospital Service.

Members also welcomed the proposal to accommodate the voluntary community services headquarters project in St. John's Convent. In response to an enquiry from Cllr. Dunne the Chief Executive Officer confirmed that the disposal of the former Richmond Hospital by the Minister for Health would not materially affect a disposal of adjacent land at St. Brendan's Hospital.

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PROGRESS REPORTS FROM PROGRAMME COMMITTEES

1. *Special Hospital Care Programme Committee*

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

The following matters were dealt with in the report:-

- (a) Progress Report on the development of Alcoholism Services in Baggot Street Hospital, Milltown Day Hospital, Temporary Day Hospital, Cabra. developments in the Hostels Programme and the relocation of local administrative offices at 140 St. Laurence's Road, Clontarf.
- (b) Report on Child Psychiatric Services in Co. Kildare.
- (c) Presentation by St. Michael's House.

2. General Hospital Care Programme Committee

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

The following matters were dealt with in the report:-

- (a) Progress report on the Psychiatric Unit/Boilder House and Ancillary Accommodation at Naas General Hospital.
- (b) Joint Consultant Anaesthetist Appointments - M.A.N.C.H./Naas Hospital.
- (c) G.P. Access Laboratory, Naas General Hospital.
- (d) Consultant Orthopaedic Post, St. Columcille's Hospital.
- (e) Additional funding for re-opening of beds in James Connolly Memorial, St. Mary's and Naas Hospitals and for the commissioning of the remaining 25 beds for young chronic sick in St Mary's Hospital.
- (f) the extension of the Accident & Emergency Service to a 24 hour service with effect from 4th September, 1989.
- (g) Survey of housing needs of in-patients.
- (h) Report on services in Baltinglass District Hospital.

It was agreed to present a report to the next meeting of the Community Care Programme Committee on slight adjustments to the boundaries of some Community Care areas.

**104/1 989
NOTICES OF MOTION**

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. Dr. Fitzpatrick, T.D., seconded by Dr. Hawkins, and agreed unanimously.

"That the Eastern Health Board approaches the Department of Health with a view to opening part of the Richmond Hospital as a Community Hospital on the lines of Baggot Street Hospital."

Following a discussion, to which Deputy Dr. Fitzpatrick, Dr. Masterson, Cllr. Hynes, Dr. O'Boyle, Cllr. Dunne and Dr. O'Herlihy contributed, the Chief Executive Officer stated that the various points made would be brought to the attention of the Department of Health.

Members agreed that the motions tabled by Mr. G. McGuire in relation to Unit B, St. Loman's Hospital should, at his request, be deferred until the December meeting of our Board.

7/9/1989

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CORRESPONDENCE

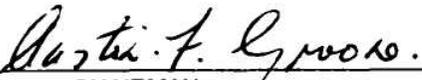
Two items of correspondence as referred to in the Chief Executive Officer's Report, which had been circulated, were noted.

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OTHER BUSINESS

In response to Dr. Hawkins, the Chief Executive Officer stated that a position report on proposals regarding the Community Drugs Scheme would be presented to the Community Care Programme Committee at its next meeting.

The meeting concluded at 7.45p.m.

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



CHAIRMAN