

EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of proceedings of Monthly Meeting
held in
The Boardroom, St. Mary's Hospital, Chapelizod, Dublin 20
On
Thursday 5th October, 1989 at 6.00 p.m.

Present

Cllr. O. Bennett	Mrs. B. Bonar
Cllr. B. Briscoe, T.D.	Cllr. I. Callely, T.D.
Cllr. M. Carroll	Dr. R. Corcoran
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
Cllr. A. Groome	Cllr. W.J. Harvey
Cllr. P. Hickey	Cllr. F. Hynes
Cllr. T. Keenan	Dr. P. McCarthy
Mr. G. McGuire	Dr. J. Masterson
Cllr. C. Murphy	Ms. M. Nealon
Dr. J. O'Boyle	Dr. B. O'Herlihy
Cllr. J. Reilly	Cllr. R. Roche, T.D.

Apologies

Mrs. D. Clune, Prof. J.S. Doyle, Dr. D. I. Keane

In the Chair

Cllr. Austin Groome

Officers in Attendance

Mr. K.J. Hickey, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. F. Donohue, Programme Manager, Special Assignments
Mr. J. Doyle, Programme Manager, Community Care
Mr. S. O'Brien, Programme Manager, General Hospital Care
Prof. B. O'Donnell, Dublin Medical Officer
Mr. Martin Gallagher, Finance Officer
Mr. G. Brennan, Technical Services Officer
Mr. N. McNee, Management Services Officer
Ms. M. Kelly, Personnel Officer
Mr. M. O'Connor, Secretary

107/1989

CONDOLENCES

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

1. Ms. Jacqueline Pearse, Community Welfare Officer on the death of her sister.
2. The wife and family of Seamus Nolan, Chief Environmental Health Officer, Co. Kildare.

108/1989

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. Meeting with Minister for Health

The Minister for Health has arranged to meet with the Chairmen and Chief Executive Officers of the eight Health Boards on 11th October, 1989 for a general discussion on the health services.

2. Committee on Headquarters Accommodation

A meeting of the Committee on Headquarters Accommodation took place on 18th September, 1989 following which a detailed proposal has been submitted to the Department of Health.

3. Meetings of the Community Care Programme Committee

I wish to advise members that a meeting of the Community Care Programme Committee will be held on Monday 16th October, 1989 in the Community Care Office at Poplar House, Naas and on Wednesday 18th October, 1989 at 11 a.m. in Baggot Street Hospital. Members will receive the usual notices regarding these meetings.

4. Development of Naas General Hospital

Our Board's request that a deputation be received by the Minister for Health has been followed up and I am pleased to inform members that the Minister will receive the deputation as soon as he has a suitable date available.

5. I am sure members will join with me in congratulating Deputy Bernard Durkan, on his appointment as Opposition Spokesman on Trade Affairs."

109/1989

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 7TH SEPTEMBER, 1989.

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 7th September, 1989, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr. Gannon, seconded by Cllr. Dunne.

110/1989

QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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

"(i) Cllr. L O'Neill

"Is it true that patients attending training units under the Health Board's Psychiatric Services, who have been approved to seek employment by their Consultant Psychiatrist, cannot do so as they are not permitted by the Training Unit due to an insufficient number of trainees?"

Reply

The policy in each of our Board's workshops is to provide vocational and social skills training to trainees with psychiatric, mental handicap and physical disability. In line with their personal development, arrangements are made for further training in higher level workshops or training centres.

If a trainee is considered suitable for placement in outside employment this is pursued and it would be totally contrary to policy to retain such a trainee in a workshop if an opportunity for open employment exists.

(ii) Cllr. C. Flood, T.D.

"Will the Chief Executive Officer please state if any progress has been made in the matter of the provision of a purpose built Health Centre for the West Tallaght Area, which is urgently needed."

Reply

Our Board plans to provide a Health Centre and Day Nursery at Fortunestown, Tallaght. A site was acquired from Dublin Corporation for this purpose. A detailed planning brief for the proposed facility has been submitted to the Department of Health for approval. The next stage in the planning procedure is the appointment of a design team and this will occur as soon as we are notified of Departmental approval. An allocation of capital monies for the project is also awaited.

(iii) Cllr. C. Flood, T.D.

"Will the Chief Executive Officer please state what proposals there are, if any, to dispose of the property on Main Road, Tallaght, bearing in mind that the site in question is located in a 'Designated Area' for tax incentive purposes and that the designation is of limited duration."

Reply

Proposals are currently being formulated through our Estate Management Section for the future of this property in Tallaght.

I am aware of the "designated area" status of this site and we are taking cognisance of the fact that this is of limited duration."

111/1989

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

1. "E.E.C. Food Scheme 1989

I have circulated with the correspondence for the meeting, a copy of Circular SA7/89 from the Department of Social Welfare regarding the E.E.C. Food Scheme 1989.

Arrangements are being made to implement the terms of this scheme as set out in the circular.

2. Social Welfare Statistics 1988 and Weekly Rates from July 1989

I have circulated, with the Agenda papers for the information of members, copies of an information card issued by the Department of Social Welfare setting out Social Welfare Statistics for 1988 and the weekly rates of payment from July 1989.

3. Health (Nursing Homes) Bill 1989

I have circulated this evening, for the information of members, copies of the Health (Nursing Homes) Bill 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum and a copy of a press release dated 29th September, 1989 issued by the Department of Health.

Arrangements will be made to have the Bill considered in detail by the General Hospital Care Programme Committee.

4. Major Emergency on 30th September, 1989

As members will be aware, the Dublin Major Emergency Plan was implemented on the night of the 30th September last when a double decker bus overturned at Christ Church Place in the city. Fifteen ambulances were committed to the emergency and the more seriously injured were brought to the nearest hospitals, i.e. Meath Hospital (48, of whom 9 were admitted) and St. James's Hospital (38, of whom 16 were admitted).

A smaller number of the less seriously injured were brought to St. Vincent's (10) and the Mater (2) Hospitals.

Ambulances from Kildare and Wicklow areas were deployed to cover the more routine accident and emergency work in Dublin during the emergency.

Liaison was maintained from our ambulance control room with the receiving hospitals. The hospitals concerned are satisfied with the way their own emergency plans functioned. These include arrangements for the handling of casualties and diversion of routine workloads.

I am pleased to report that the Major Emergency Plan in relation to both the ambulance service and the hospital service functioned efficiently in relation to this particular incident and I am sure that our Board would wish to express their appreciation to all staffs concerned.

5. World Health Organisation - Healthy Cities Project

I have just been advised by Mr. F.J. Donohue, Chairman of the Working Group, that Dublin's application to the World Health Organisation for inclusion as one of the network of European Cities participating in the W.H.O. Healthy Cities Project, has been accepted. The World Health Organisation has requested Dublin to organise and host a conference involving the six new participating cities from Europe. The purpose of this conference is to brief the cities on the rationale of the Healthy Cities Project and the commitments and responsibilities arising from their participation in the project.

The Working Group has agreed with the W.H.O. that the conference should take place from the 22nd to 24th November next. It has been suggested that our Board be represented by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and up to five members at the opening ceremony and plenary session on Wednesday 22nd November in the Conference Centre, Jury's Hotel, Ballsbridge. The remainder of the conference will be taken up with closed technical working sessions. The purpose of the first day's plenary session is:

- (a) to acquaint cities with the vision, history and methodology of the project,
- (b) to clarify the W.H.O.'s expectations of participating cities, and,
- (c) to outline Dublin's preparation for entry.

In line with usual practise, the selection of 5 representatives for this conference will be on the agenda for next month's meeting of our Board.

It will be necessary to make arrangements for an ongoing structure to oversee the Healthy Cities Project in Dublin. With this in mind arrangements are being made for an early meeting between the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of each of the Dublin Local Authorities, our Board, and a senior Management representative from each Authority to discuss and agree on the most appropriate structure for this purpose.

6. "Sexual Abuse of Children - a review of cases"

A research report drawn up by two of our community medical specialists entitled "Sexual Abuse of Children - a Review of Cases" has recently become available and, in fact, has been accepted for publication in the Irish Medical Journal. Because of its significance in the context of our Board's responsibilities under the proposed child care legislation, arrangements have been made to have this report circulated to members and discussed by the Community Care Committee for report back to our Board."

With regard to the Healthy Cities Conference, Mr. Donohue, Chairman of the Officer Working Group, agreed to have further consideration given to the members' request for a greater number of places for the members of our Board at the conference.

112/1989

DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY AT STILLORGAN, CO. DUBLIN

The following report no. 22/1989 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. 0.31 acres at rear of Stillorgan Health Centre.
2. The said property was transferred to our Board by the Dublin Health Authority.
3. It is proposed to dispose of the property to O'Connor & Co. (Dublin) Ltd., "Homefels", Old Stillorgan Road, Blackrock. Co. Dublin.
4. The consideration in respect of the disposal is £116,000.

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. Hickey, seconded by Cllr. Harvey, it was agreed to adopt the proposal contained in the report.

113/1989

DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY AT WEST ESSEX STREET, DUBUN 2

The following report no. 23/1989 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. Site at 22 West Essex Street, Dublin 2.
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 Corporation of Dublin.
4. The consideration in respect of the disposal is £32,000.

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. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Harvey, it was agreed to adopt the proposal contained in the report.

114/1989

DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY AT EMMET ROAD, INCHICORE, DUBLIN 8

The following report no. 24/1989 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. 240 sq. metres of land at Emmet Road Health Centre, Inchicore.
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 Corporation of Dublin.
4. The consideration in respect of the disposal is the re-instatement of the boundary wall.

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. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Harvey, it was agreed to adopt the proposal contained in the report.

Following a discussion to which Cllr. Hynes, Cllr. Reilly, Deputy Roche, Cllr. Dillon Byrne, Cllr. Dunne, Deputy Callely, Mrs. Bonar, Cllr. Mrs. Glenn, Dr. McCarthy, Deputy Flood and Cllr. Murphy contributed and to which the Chief Executive Officer and Mr. Doyle of the Estate Management Department, replied, a proposal by Cllr. Hynes, seconded by Cllr. Reilly, regarding the establishment of a committee to deal with all aspects of our Board's property was accepted in principle. This matter is to be considered further at the special meeting of our Board which was previously agreed would be held during November, when a detailed report will be presented dealing with all the issues which had been raised in rotation to Board property.

115/1989
TEMPORARY BORROWING

The following report no. 25/1989 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted.

"The approval of the Board to borrowing by way of overdraft during the period ending on 31st December, 1989 to a maximum of £5 million is requested."

On a proposal by Cllr. Dunne, seconded by Deputy Callely, it was agreed to adopt the proposal contained in the report

116/1989
ALLOCATION FOR NON-CAPITAL HEALTH EXPENDITURE 1989

Report no. F5/1989 (copy filed with official minute) copies of which had been circulated, was, on a proposal by Cllr. Dunne, seconded by Deputy Callely, noted by the Board.

In response to an enquiry from Mr. McGuire, the Chief Executive Officer stated that a detailed submission had been made to the Department of Health backing up our Board's request for portion of the additional funding made available for the health services. This included a section dealing with the necessity for additional funding to assist the development of community based psychiatric services giving a breakdown of our requirements under this heading.

117/1989
PROGRESS REPORTS FROM PROGRAMME COMMITTEES

1. *Special Hospital Care Programme Committee*

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

The following matters were dealt with in the report:

- (a) Progress report on developments at St. Ita's Hospital, Unit 10, James Connolly Memorial Hospital and the Lower House, St. Brendan's Hospital.
- (b) Parent Education Programme.
- (c) Child Psychiatric Services

2. General Hospital Care Programme Committee

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

The following matters were dealt with in the report:-

- (a) Progress report on the Psychiatric Unit/Boiler House and Ancillary Accommodation at Naas General Hospital.
- (b) Development Control Plan for Naas General Hospital.
- (c) Consultant Orthopaedic Post at St. Columcille's Hospital.
- (d) Progress report on the extended 24 hour Accident & Emergency Service.
- (e) Young Chronic Sick Unit, St. Mary's Hospital
- (f) Active Age Week 1989
- (g) Report on services in St. Vincent's Hospital, Athy

3. Community Care Programme Committee

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

The following matters were dealt with in the report:

- (a) Supplementary Welfare Allowances - Rent/Mortgage Supplements
- (b) Footwear Scheme 1989/1990.
- (c) National Fuel Scheme 1989/1990.
- (d) Community Drugs Scheme.
- (e) Community Care area boundaries.
- (f) Thalidomide Victims - eligibility under the Health Acts.
- (g) Local Authorities - housing assessments.
- (h) Report on services in Co. Kildare.
- (i) Circular 8/1989 from the Department of Health with regard to modes of entry by Doctors to the General Medical Services Scheme.

118/1989

NOTICES OF MOTION

1. The notice of motion in the name of Cllr. Dr. D. Fitzpatrick, T.D., regarding the feasibility of setting up a staff welfare service was, at his request, deferred to the November meeting of our Board.
2. The following motion was proposed by Cllr. Dillon Byrne:-

"In recognition of the highly beneficial effect of Parent Education Programmes, this Health Board undertakes to seek and set aside finance in 1990 to organise such programmes in all the Community Care areas of the Eastern Hearth Board."

The motion was seconded by Cllr. Carroll and following a discussion to which Cllr. Dillon Byrne, Cllr. Dunne, Deputy Callely, Dr. O'Boyle, Dr. Corcoran, Deputy Durkan and Dr. O'Herlihy contributed and to which the Chief Executive Officer and Mr. Donohue, Programme Manager, replied, it was agreed that a review report would be prepared in relation to the various programmes being operated by our Board e.g. Community Mothers Project, Parent Education Programmes, Homestart, House Keeping and Budgeting Courses, Family Resource Centres and dealing with the position regarding the possibility of E.E.C. funding for these programmes.

- 3 & 4 The motions in the name of Deputy Durkan regarding ENT treatment and the administration of Disabled Persons Grants were deferred to the November meeting of our Board.
- 5 & 6 The following motions were proposed by Deputy Flood, seconded by Cllr. Carroll, and agreed.

"That a full written report be given on the provision of dental services in the Limekiln Farm Health Centre. Dublin 12 and that the report be discussed."

"That a full written report be given on the provision of dental services for primary school going children and that the report be discussed."

It was noted that a review report on the provision of dental services, including the matters referred to in the motions, would be presented to the Community Care Programme Committee at its November meeting.

119/1989

CORRESPONDENCE

Circular SA7/1989 from the Department of Social Welfare regarding the E.E.C. Food Scheme 1989, copies of which had been circulated, was noted.

120/1989

OTHER BUSINESS

Deputy Roche referred to recent publicity regarding the arrangements for a liver transplant operation for a child from the Bray area to be carried out in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham and stated that any criticism implied in the newspaper article of the Senior Executive Officer who was handling the case was very unfair. The Officer concerned should be complimented for the extremely rapid manner in which he had dealt with the case as soon as the necessary documentation was made available to him.

The meeting concluded at 8.30 p.m.

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



Chairman

EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Report No: F.5/1989

Allocation for non-capital health expenditure 1989

At a meeting of the Budget Working Group on 20th September, 1989 the Chief Executive Officer reported as follows in relation to our Board's financial position as at 31st July, 1989:-

"SUMMARY FINANCIAL POSITION

	£	000
Approved Budget		113,870
Actual Expenditure		<u>117,807</u>
Unfavourable Variance	£	3,937

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF FACTORS ACCOUNTING FOR THE BUDGET VARIANCE

<u>Uncontrollable Variances</u>	£	000
1. Community Drugs Refund Schemes		1,405
2. Disabled Persons Maintenance Allowances		232
3. M.M.R. Scheme Costs		95
4. Hepatitis B Vaccination Costs		75
5. Revised Overtime arrangements for Non Consultant Hospital Doctors		<u>135</u>
Total Uncontrollable Variances	£	<u>1,942</u>

ANALYSIS OF CONTROLLABLE VARIANCES

	£	000
1. Ambulance Service		304
2. New Services - Special Hospitals		417
3. Exceptional Costs - Special Hospitals		720
4. Exceptional Costs - General Hospitals		645
5. Other Special Hospital Costs - Recoupable		240
6. Less: Favourable Variances		<u>(331)</u>
Total	£	<u>1,995</u>
Total Variance	£	<u>3,937</u>

PROJECTED BUDGET OUTTURN AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1989

Projected Uncontrollable Variance at 31/12/89

<u>Analysed As Follows:</u>	£	000	£	000
Refund of Drugs		2,500		
D.P.M.A.		800		
M.H.R. Scheme		300		
Hepatitis B Vaccine		120		
Overtime N.C.H.D.		250		
			£	3,970

Uncontrollable Variances

The adverse variance reflects the upward trend in demand for statutory services provided by our Board. The Department of Health has been kept advised of the budgetary implications associated with the increasing levels of claims for drug refunds, D.P.M.A.'s etc. Our Board is unable to make any special funding arrangements to meet the additional costs of these statutory schemes given that we must maintain our other services at least at 1988 service levels.

Projected Controllable Variance at 31/12/89

Controllable Variances

The adverse budget variances for the Special and General Hospital programmes have arisen because of our Board's commitment to at least maintain our services at 1988 levels and also to fund the development of community based services, particularly in the Special Hospital Programme. In order to ensure our Board meets the budget targets for 1989 it is necessary to implement a programme of special funding measures.

Projected Controllable Variances Analysed As Follows:

<u>Special Hospitals</u>	£	000	£	000	£	000
Exceptional Costs		720				
Cost of New Services to 31/12/89		<u>1,290</u>				
<u>Projected Variance at 31/12/89</u>				2,010		
Less: Agreed Funding and Budget Measures				<u>1,830</u>		
Balance (to be met from further budget measures)						<u>180</u>

Projected Controllable Variances General Hospitals

	£	000				
Ambulance Service		454				
Additional Service						
Commitments		472				
Other Budget Variances		<u>1,040</u>				
<u>Projected Variance at 31/12/89</u>					1,966	
Less : Agreed Funding and Budget Measures					<u>1,691</u>	
Balance (to be met from further budget measures)						<u>275</u>

<u>Summary</u> - Projected Outturn at 31/12/89		£ 000
Estimated Total Uncontrollable Variance		3,970
Estimated Total Controllable Variance	455	
Less : Further budget measures	(455)	<u>Nil</u>
ESTIMATED TOTAL BUDGET DEFICIT 31/12/89		<u>£ 3,970</u>

Following detailed consideration and clarification of matters arising out of the Report the Budget Working Group noted the position as outlined. The Budget Working Group will continue to monitor trends on a regular basis.

Other Matters

Following a review of our Board's present position in relation to its property at James's Street and St. Brendan's Hospital it was agreed to recommend to the Board that the site already designated at James's Street for the Dental School and Clinical Sciences Complex be transferred to St. James's Hospital Board on the same terms as the 1974 lease, with agreement to the granting of a sub-lease by St. James's Hospital to Trinity College in relation to a site for medical and nursing school buildings. Consideration to be paid to the Eastern Health Board by way of an ex-gratia payment by Trinity College to be £210,000.

It was also agreed to recommend to the Board that arrangements should be made to investigate the market (without commitment) in relation to the site previously designated for the new Headquarters building on the North Circular Road and also the site around the Lower House, at St. Brendan's Hospital.

Cllr. A. Groome

Chairman

25th September, 1989