

EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of the Proceedings of Monthly Meeting
of the Eastern Health Board
held in the Boardroom St. Mary's Hospital, Chapelizod Dublin 20
on Thursday 25th July, 1991 at 8.00 p.m.

Present

Cllr. M. Barrett T.D.	Mrs. B. Bonar
Cllr. G. Brady	Cllr. B. Briscoe T.D.
Cllr. E. Byrne, T.D.	Cllr. I. Callely T.D.
Mis. D. Clune	Cllr. B. Coffey
Cllr. J. Connolly	Dr. R Corcoran
Cllr. J. Doyle T.D.	Cllr. B.J. Durkan T.D.
Cllr. K. Farrell	Cllr. C. Gallagher
Cllr. R Greene	Cllr. F. Hynes
Cllr. J. Jacob. T.D.	Dr. D.I Keane
Cllr. T. Keenan	Cllr. D. Marren
Dr. P. McCarthy	Prof. J. McCormick
Mr. G. McGuire	Dr. J. Masterson
Cllr. O. Mitchell	Ms. M. Nealon
Cllr. Dr. J.W. O'Connell	Dr. J. O'Boyie
Dr. B. O'Herlihy	Cllr. J. Reilly
Cllr. R Shortall	

Apologies

Dr. R Hawkins

In the Chair

Cllr. I. Callely. T.D.

Officers in Attendance

Mr. K. J. Hickey. Chief Executive Officer
Mr. M. Walsh. Programme Manager. Special Hospital Care
Mr. J. Doyle. A/Programme Manager. Community Care
Mr. S. O'Brien. A/Programme Manager. General Hospital Care
Mr. G. Brennan. Technical Services Officer
Mr. M. Gallagher. Finance Officer
Ms. M. Kelly. A/Personnel Officer
Mr. M. O'Connor. Secretary

85/1991

CONDOLENCES

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

1. Patrick Dunne. Community Welfare Officer, on the death of his mother.
2. Ann O'Riordan. Community Welfare Officer, on the death of her mother.
3. Tom Curran, Grade III Officer. Secretariat on the death of his father.
4. Noel Kelly. Porter. Castle Street, on the death of his father.
5. Margaret Kennedy. Grade II. Area 6 on the death of her father.
6. Mr. Michael Hanratty. Senior Administrative Officer, Community Welfare Services, on the death of his father.

86/1991

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. **Congratulations to Professor Stephen Doyle**

I am sure members will Join with me In offering our congratulations to Professor Stephen Doyle on his election as President of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland.

2. **September Meeting of Board**

I wish to remind members that, as agreed at the June meeting, the next meeting of our Board will be held on Thursday. 5th September, 1991 at 6 p.m.

3. **Seminar for Health Board Members**

In view of the large number of recently appointed Councillor members of our Board I am pleased to Inform members that arrangements are being made for a one day seminar during the month of September. The seminar, which will deal with the organisation and structures of our Board. Programme Committees, the work of the various Programmes and Functions and other related matters, win be open to all members of our Board. Full details win be circulated as soon as the programme for the day has been finalised.

87/1991

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 6TH JUNE, 1991
AND OF SPECIAL MEETINGS HELD ON 12TH JUNE AND 11TH JULY, 1991.**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 6th June, 1991 and of the special meetings held on 12th June and 11th July, 1991, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr. Reilly, seconded by Dr. O'Herlthy.

88/1991

QUESTION TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

On a proposal by Mrs. Chune, seconded by Deputy Briscoe. It was agreed to answer the question which had been lodged.

Mrs.B. Bonar

A figure of £1.846.530 has been given for the cost of medicines supplied to outpatients by the Eastern Health Board, during 1990.

Please give a break-down of this figure into the various categories of medicines covered, e.g. psychiatric drugs. TB drugs, immuno-suppressive agents, growth hormones, cancer drugs, antibiotics, etc.

Reply:

The Management Information System in the Central Pharmacy is not programmed to produce the break-down requested. To undertake this task manually would involve a considerable timescale and require a correspondingly high manual input which is not possible at present due to the on-going requirements in operating the Pharmacy services.

However, a manual analysis of the 1989 expenditure was carried out for another purpose and this gives the following percentage breakdown:-

<u>Therapeutic categories</u>	<u>% of cost</u>
Central Nervous System	41.85%
Immunology	22.45%
Nutrition	10.72%
Infection and Infestation	7.02%
Gastro-intestinal Tract	6.10%
Hormones	4.77%
Medical Disposables	4.32%
Cardiovascular System	1.55%
Skin	1.03%
Diagnostic Agents	0.19%
Total	100%

89/1991

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

1. *Health Services [In-Patient] Regulations 1991*
Health Services [Out-Patient] Regulations, 1991

I have circulated under correspondence, with the agenda papers for this meeting, copies of Department of Health letter of 5th June, 1991, enclosing copies of the Health Services [In-Patient] Regulations, 1991 and the Health Services (Out-Patient) Regulations, 1991 which set out the details of the new eligibility arrangements for in-patient and out-patient services which came into effect on 1st June, 1991.

As I reported at the June meeting, arrangements are in hand to give effect to the new eligibility arrangements in our Board's hospital services and further reports, as appropriate, can be made through the General Hospital Care Programme Committee.

2. *First Conference of European Ministers on Physical and Sexual Violence against Women*

I have circulated under correspondence, with the agenda papers for this meeting, copies of letter dated 27th June, 1991 from the Department of Health enclosing the Final Declaration which was signed on behalf of the Government by Ms. Maire Geoghegan Quinn, T.D., Minister of State for European Affairs at the 1st Conference of European Ministers on Physical and Sexual Violence Against Women.

Arrangements have been made to give due attention to the terms of the Declaration

3. *Joint Venture in Health Care*

I have circulated under correspondence, with the agenda papers for this meeting, copies of the Sisters of Charity and the Sisters of Mercy letter and memorandum dated 1st July, 1991 regarding a joint venture in health care involving six of their hospitals, as follows:-

St. Mary's Orthopaedic Hospital, Cappagh
The National Medical Rehabilitation Centre, Dun Laoghaire
St. Michael's Hospital, Dun Laoghaire
The Children's Hospital, Temple Street
Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Eccles Street
St. Vincent's Hospital, Elm Park

The objectives of the joint venture are as set out in the documentation received.

4. *Increased Capitation and Subvention Rates*

I have circulated under correspondence, with the agenda papers for this meeting, copies of Department of Health Circular No. 3/91 dated 2nd July, 1991 regarding Increased capitation and subvention rates which have been approved with effect from 1st July, 1991 in respect of persons provided with services in approved homes and certain other approved centres.

I have also circulated copies of letter dated 2nd July, 1991 from the Department of Health regarding an increase in the level of assistance for long-stay patients in private psychiatric hospitals with effect from 1st July, 1991.

5. *Adoption Act, 1991*

I have circulated under correspondence, with the agenda papers for this meeting, copies of letter dated 4th July, 1991 from the Registrar of the Adoption Board enclosing a guide for adoption personnel on procedures in respect of applications relating to the recognition of foreign adoption orders under the terms of the Adoption Act, 1991.

The guide has been circulated for the attention of appropriate personnel and is circulated also for the information of Board members.

6. *Back to School Clothing and Footwear Scheme, 1991*

I have circulated under correspondence, with the agenda papers for this meeting, copies of Department of Social Welfare Circulars SA6/91 and 7/91 regarding the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Scheme, 1991, which will operate within the scope of the Supplementary Welfare Allowance Scheme.

The Scheme will be on the lines of the 1990 scheme but includes certain improvements made in the light of consultation with health boards following last year's scheme. It will operate from 1st July to 30th September, 1991 and is intended to replace the exceptional needs payments made towards school uniforms.

The maximum allowances payable are £25 in respect of a child attending a first level school and £40 in respect of a child attending a second level school.

7. *Child Care Bill, 1988*

I have been notified by the Department of Health that the President has signed the Child Care Bill, 1988 into law as the Child Care Act, 1991.

When copies of the Act and accompanying explanatory memorandum become available in a few weeks time they will be circulated to the members for consideration in detail at a meeting of the Community Care Programme Committee.

8. Charges in respect of private and semi-private accommodation in public hospitals

I have circulated, for the Information of members, copies of Department of Health Circular no. 4/91 dated 24th July, 1991 regarding revised rates of charges in respect of private and semi-private accommodation in public hospitals which will apply from 1st August, 1991.

9. Increase in Boarding Out Allowance

I have been notified by the Department of Health that, in accordance with the provisions of the 1991 Budget Statement, the standard rate of allowance payable in respect of children boarded out by health boards will increase by 4% to £38.80 per child per week with effect from 22nd July, 1991.

Arrangements have been made to pay the increased rates in respect of children boarded out by our Board.

10. Major Accidents

I wish to advise members that following a major accident at White's Cross, Co. Wicklow on Monday 1 July, 1991, when a fully laden bus overturned, the Ambulance Department's and St. Colmcille's Hospital's Major Emergency Plans were initiated. Casualties were brought to the following hospitals:

St. Colmcilles	25
St. Vincent's	7
St. Michael's	4
Wexford	11
	<u>47</u>

Following a second major accident near Enfield on the Dublin Galway Road on Saturday, 6th July, 1991 the Ambulance Department's and the James Connolly Memorial Hospital, Blanchardstown Major Emergency plans were initiated. Casualties were brought to the following hospitals:

James Connolly Memorial Hospital	57
Mater Hospital	3
St. James's Hospital	2
	<u>62</u>

I am pleased to report that, on both occasions, the Major Emergency plans proved very effective in dealing with the two major accidents which involved large numbers of casualties.

Our thanks are due to the members of our Board's staff who responded so efficiently and effectively on both occasions. Our thanks are also due to St. Vincents, St. Michaels, Mater and St James's Hospitals as well as the South Eastern Health Board for their co-operation in the case of the accident at White's Cross and to the North Eastern, Midland and Western Health Boards for their assistance in the case of the accident near Enfield.

11. 1991 People of the Year Award

I have circulated this evening copies of a notice which we have just received from the Chairman of the Adjudicating Committee for the People of the Year Awards inviting our Board to make a nomination for one of this year's awards.

Nominations should be returned to the Secretary. People of the Year Awards. Roslyn Park, Sandymount before 2 October, 1991.

12. Department of Social Welfare Statistics for 1990 and weekly Rates of Payment from July. 1991

I have circulated this evening, for the Information of members, copies of a leaflet showing the weekly rates of payment in respect of Department of Social Welfare Allowances from July 1991 and Social Welfare Statistics for 1990.

13. Mental Handicap Services - Funding

I have to-day received notification from the Department of Health of an allocation of £230,000 to develop mental handicap services in our Board's area this year. Separate funding will apply in relation to the Cheeverstown agreement which is the subject of ongoing discussions related to Justice Costello's appointment as third party adjudicator. The allocation of the sum of £230,000 will be considered by the Central Planning Committee and a report will be brought to the Special Hospitals Programme Committee as soon as possible.

90/1991

DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY AT MELLOWES AVENUE, FINGLAS, DUBLIN 11.

The following report No. 20/1991 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 Mellowes Avenue. Finglas. Dublin 11
2. The property was acquired from Dublin Corporation.
3. It is proposed to dispose of the property to Dublin Corporation.
4. The consideration in respect of the disposal is £5,750.

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 for Health, 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 Dr. O’Hertily, seconded by Dr. Concoran, it was agreed to adopt the proposal contained in the Report.

91/1991

Disposal of Property at Edenmore Avenue, Dublin 5

The following report No. 21/1991 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 Edenmore Avenue. Dublin 5.
2. The said property was acquired from Dublin Corporation.
3. It is proposed to dispose of the property to the Housing Association for Integrated Living [H.A.I.L.] for the construction of a sheltered housing project.
4. The consideration in respect of the disposal is Nil.

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 for Health, 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 Dr. Keane, seconded by Dr. O'Boyle, it was agreed to adopt the proposal contained in the Report.

92/1991

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES (PAYMENTS) BOARD – YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1990.

It was agreed to refer Report no. 26/1901 [copy filed with official minute] for further consideration by the Community Care Programme Committee.

93/1991

HEALTH RESEARCH BOARD REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF IRISH PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL AND UNITS FOR 1988

It was agreed to refer Report no. 27/1991 [copy filed with official minute] for further consideration by the Special Hospital Care programme Committee.

94/1991

PROGRESS REPORTS FROM PROGRAMME COMMITTEES

1. Speical Hospital Care Programme Committee

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

The following matters were dealt with in the report

- (a) Postgraduate training in psychiatry
- (b) Postgraduate training in mental handicap - St. Ita's Hospital
- (c) Health Centre, Balbriggan
- (d) In-take of residents to Tivioli Road, Dun Laoghaire
- (e) Day Hospital. Clondalkin
- (f) Psychiatric Service Area 8 - St. Ita's Hospital
- (g) Site at St. Francis Day Hospital Raheny

2. General Hospital Care Programme Committee

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

The following matters were dealt with in the report:-

- (a) Equipping of new psychiatric unit at Naas General Hospital
- (b) Consultant physician posts Naas General Hospital
- (c) Consultant ENT Surgeon's post James Connolly Memorial Hospital
- (d) Consultant Histopathologist post St. Columcille's Hospital
- (e) Report on services at James Connolly Memorial Hospital, Blanchardstown

3. Community Care Programme Committee

On a proposal by Dr. Keane, seconded by Dr. O'Herilihy, it was agreed to adopt the report.

The following matters were dealt with in the report

- (a) Appointment of full-time Co-Ordinator of the Dublin Healthy Cities Project
- (b) ESRI Report on Smoking, Drinking and other drug use among Dublin post primary pupils
- (c) Report on Project on Clean Air in the workplace (Dublin Health Cities Project)
- (d) Report on services in Community Care Area No. 3

95/1991

CORRESPONDENCE

Items of correspondence as referred to in the Chief Executive Officers report were noted.

The meeting concluded at 8.30 p.m.

CORRECT: K.J. HICKEY.
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER


CHAIRMAN

EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Report No. 26/1991

Report of the General Medical Services (Payments) Board for the year ended 31st December 1990.

The report of the General Medical Services (Payments) Board for 1990 has now been published. The report shows that a total of £167,424,464 was paid to Doctors and Pharmacists for the year ended 31st December 1990 compared with a total of £158,095,603 paid the previous year, representing an increase of 6%

Gross Expenditure (Doctors payments and medicines)

	1990 £	1989 £	% Increase
E.H.B.	45,854,688	43,630,158	5%
National	167,424,464	158,095,603	6%
Payments to Doctors			
E.H.B.	14,095,739	13,599,247	4%
National	53,565,211	50,711,403	6%
Ingredient Cost of Medicines (including Stock Orders & V.A.T.)			
E.H.B.	25,546,211	24,076,138	6%
National	91,866,220	86,431,229	6%
Dispensing fees paid to Pharmacists (including Stock Order Fees)			
E.H.B.	6,212,738	5,954,773	4%
National	21,993,033	20,952,971	5%

- Note: (1) The relevant share of practice costs incurred by Doctors and Pharmacists in providing services to General Medical Services
- (2) The Payments to Doctors include Fees, Allowances and Contributions to the Superannuation Fund.

1. Comment

- 1.1 Nationally the rate of increase in the overall cost of 1990 on 1989 was 6% whereas in the Eastern Health Board the rate of increase was 5%.
- 1.2 Doctors were paid £53.6 million nationally - an increase of 6% on 1989 - whereas in the Eastern Health Board they were paid £14.1 million - an increase of 4% on 1989.
- 1.3 The amount paid for medicines nationally (inclusive of ingredient cost, pharmacy fees and V.A.T.) was £113.9 million - an increase of 6% on 1989. whereas the amount paid in the Eastern Health Board was £31.75 million - also an increase of 6%.
- 1.4 The overall cost of medicines per panel patient including those dispensed to by their doctors was £92.24 in 1990 compared with £83.32 in 1989 - an increase of almost 11%. The appropriate figures for the Eastern Health Board were £90.09 in 1990 compared to £78.19 in 1989 - an increase of over 15%

- 1.5 The amount of the overall increase of 1990 over 1989 was £9,328,861 and of this amount:-
- (i) £5,326,246 was spent on ingredient cost of medicines and brought this cost's share of the total spent on medicines, fees and allowances from 52.8% to 53.1%.
 - (ii) £2,853,808 was in respect of doctors fees and allowances representing 32% of the total expenditure, as against 32.1% in 1989
 - (iii) £1,040,061 was in respect of pharmacists fees representing 13.1% of the total expenditure as against 13.3% in 1989.
 - (iv) £108,746 was in respect of V.A.T. representing 1.8% of expenditure, which showed no change from 1989.

2. Drug Costs

2.1 Drug Cost by Age Groups

Table 14. page 31 shows drug costs by age group for all the Health Boards. In the Eastern Health Board, as in the other Health Boards, the most expensive group is the 65 years and over, and the least expensive is the 5-15 age group

2.2 Number of prescription dispensed by pharmacists

Table 15. page 32 shows the number of prescriptions dispensed by pharmacists. The number dispensed in the Eastern Health Board for 1990 decreased from 2,113,041 in 1989 to 2,094,571 - a decrease of just less than 1% and the number of prescription Memo dispensed increased from 4,289,573 in 1989 to 4,362,969 – an increase of almost 2% - Nationally there was an increase of 4,278 prescriptions dispensed in 1990 while the number of items dispensed increased by 2.5%..

In the Eastern Health Board the number of items per form increased from 2.03 in 1989 to 2.08 in 1990. Nationally the number of items per form increased from 2.00 in 1989 to 2.05 in 1990.

2.3 Cost of Prescriptions divided as between ingredient cost, dispensing fee and value added tax

Table 17. page 34 shows a breakdown of the cost of prescriptions. The Eastern Health Board's total of £31,601,768 represents 29% of the overall total of £107,207,823.

2.4 Analysis of Payment to Pharmacists in respect of Prescriptions

Table 18, page 35 gives an analysis of payments in respect of prescriptions. In the Eastern Health Board area the average cost per prescription item in 1990 was £7.24 as against £7.32 nationally.

Copies of the Report and a more detailed analysis of the information relating to our Board's area will be circulated for consideration at a future meeting of the Community Care Programme Committee.

18th July, 1991

K.J. Hickey
Chief Executive Officer

EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

Report No. 27/1991

Health Research Board Report on the Activities of Irish Psychiatric Hospitals and Units for 1988

The Health Research Board has published its Report on the activities of Irish Psychiatric Hospitals and Units for 1988.

The Report shows that there were 28,432 admissions to, and 28,710 discharges from, Irish Psychiatric hospitals during 1988. This represented a slight increase over figures for the previous year but was in keeping with the overall levelling out of admissions during the 1980's. in contrast with the increase in hospital admissions observed during the 1970's. First admissions were just over 8000 for 1988 i.e. 28% of total admissions. For our Board's area in 1988 the percentage was 30%.

As in previous years admission rates peaked in the 35-44 year age group and were highest for the widowed of both sexes and lowest for single women. Admission rates continued to be highest for the lowest socio-economic group - unskilled manual workers.

Depression continued to be the most common reason for admission for both men and women [29% of total admissions] followed by alcoholism [23%] and schizophrenia [22%].

Overall the Irish psychiatric admission rate remained high at 8 per 1000, which was twice the English rate of 4 per 1000 reported in 1986. The rate for our Board's area in 1988 was 8.5 per 1000 and for 1990 was 6.3 per 1000.

The following summary data relating to our Board's area has been extracted from the Report:-

All Admissions				First Admissions			
Male	Female	Both Sexes		Male	Female	Both Sexes	
5,069	5,075	10,144		1,656	1,457	3,113	
Single	Married	Widowed	Unspec	Single	Married	Widowed	Unspec
4,899	3,494	894	857	1,378	1,183	280	272
Total 10,144				Total 3,113			
Under 34	35-44	Over45	Total	Older 35	35-44	Over 45	Total
3,153	2,272	4,719	10,144	1,185	666	1,262	3,113

Copies of the Report and a more detailed analysis including a comparison of our Board's figures for 1990 with those for 1988, will be circulated for consideration at a future meeting of the Special Hospital Care Programme Committee.

18th July, 1991

K.J. Hickey
Chief Executive Officer