

## **EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

**Minutes of proceedings of Monthly Meeting  
held in  
the Boardroom, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8  
on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October, 1999 at 6.00 p.m.**

### ***Present***

Mr. P. Aspell	Dr. Siobhan Bany
Mrs. B. Bonar	Cllr. C. Burke
Cllr. L. Butler	Cllr. E. Byrne
Ald. L. Callely T.D.	Cllr. T. Cullen
Cllr. A. Devitt	Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne
Ald. Sen. J. Doyle	Cllr. A. Doyle
Cllr. Dr. D. Fitzpatrick	Cllr. T. Fox
Dr. K.Harkin	Cllr. D. Heney
Dr. D. Keane	Dr. M Laffoy
Cllr. C. McGrath	Mr. G. McGuire
Cllr. Dr. B. O'Connell	Dr. P. O'Connell
Cllr. M O'Donovan	Cllr. S. O'Fearghail
Mrs. C. Quinn	Cllr. J. Reilly
Dr. J. Reilly	Cllr. R. Shortall TJD.
Dr. C. Smith	Cllr. D. Tipping
Cllr. P. Vance	Cllr. J. Wall, T.D.

### ***Apology***

Ms. M.Hoban  
Cllr. Olivia Mitchell, T.D.  
Cllr. C. O'Connor

### ***In the Chair***

Ald .I.Callely T.D  
Dr. P. O'Connell

### ***Officers in Attendance***

Mr. P. McLoughlin, Chief Executive Officer  
Mr. M Walsh, Programme Manager  
Mr. S. O'Brien, Programme Manager  
Ms. B. Clarke, Programme Manager  
Mr. M Gallagher, Programme Manager  
Ms. M. WindUe, Programme Manager  
Dr. B. O'Herlihy, Director of Public Health  
Mr. J. Oman, Technical Services Officer  
Mr. E. Hatpin, A/Management Services Officer  
Mr. P. Doyle, Estate Management Officer  
Ms. M Browne, Communications Director  
Ms O. Treacy, Board Secretary

**109/1999**  
**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

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

**1. Condolences**

I am sure members will join with me in expressing sincere sympathy with Dr. Ray Hawkins, on the death of his wife Carol earlier this week.

In addition I would like to propose a vote of sympathy to those whose names have been included on the list of condolences, which have been circulated.

As a mark of respect I wish to advise members that in accordance with Board protocol I am going to adjourn this meeting of our Board for fifteen minutes.

**2. Official Openings**

I wish to advise members that I will be officially opening the following services over the next few weeks:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Time</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> October, 1999	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Community Unit for the Elderly, Sir Patrick Dunn's</li> <li>■ HACCP Training Programme in Food Control</li> </ul>	2.30 p.m..
2 <sup>nd</sup> November, 1999	Newbridge Health Centre	12.00 noon
5 <sup>th</sup> November, 1999	Gallen House High Support Hostel, 15/17 Howth Road.	11a.m.

Members will receive invitations to these functions as soon as possible.

**3. Programme Committee - Community Services and Services for Children and Families.**

I wish to advise members that the venue for the Programme Committee of Community Services and Services for Children and Families due to be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> October, 1999 is the Guinness Iveagh Grounds, Crumlin Road, Dublin 12.

**4. Protocol Committee.**

I refer to my letter dated 1<sup>st</sup> October, 1999 to members advising that I intended to raise the subject of the Protocol Committee at our meeting tonight

the local elections earlier this year the format of our Board membership has changed, fore I am now seeking nominations of members to represent, in appropriate ratios the t membership of our Board, in order to re-form our Protocol Committee and arrange first meeting of the Committee before the end of the month.

owing some discussion on the matter the following persons were nominated for rship of the Protocol Committee:-

Dr. P. O'Connell  
 Cllr. E. Byrne  
 Cllr. J. Reilly  
 Cllr. P. Vance  
 Mr. G. McGuire

The Chairman will also be ex-officio member of the Protocol Committee.

#### **110/1999**

#### **MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER, 1999.**

The minutes of the proceedings of the monthly meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1999, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr. J. Reilly, seconded by Dr. D.I. Keane.

#### **111/1999**

#### **QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Chairman's proposal, to answer the questions which had been lodged was agreed.

#### **1. Cllr. Christy Burke.**

'To ask the Chief Executive Officer that a report to be on: The Proposals for funding to enable St Pauls Special School, Beaumont, Dublin 9, to provide respite care for children with severe behavioural problem".

#### **Reply**

At the end of 1994, responsibility for the funding of St Pauls Residential Services was transferred from the Department of Health to our Board, with an allocation of £605,000.

Prior to the transfer from the Department of Health & Children, our Board already had an arrangement with St Pauls to provide day services for Autistic children. A grant of £200,000 was agreed for this service.

During 1996 and 1997, there were a number of meetings with Senior Management from St. Pauls and the Mater Hospital, primarily relating to service issues and budget deficits. Once-off amounts of £80,000 and an additional base budget increase of £60,000 per annum were paid to St. Pauls between 1995 and 1997, bringing the grant in total to £928,000. In the same period, their financial position deteriorated by £135,000 - i.e. from a £14,000 surplus in 1995 to £121,000 deficit in 1997. There was no corresponding service expansion or developments in the same period. The current Budget for St. Pauls is £1.059m.

A number of meetings between our Board and St. Paul's have taken place and discussions are underway to agree membership of an inter-organisation group to prepare a report which will make recommendations about future service direction for SL Paul's.

**2. Cllr. Eric Byrne**

"Will the Chief Executive Officer agree to use his power and influence to support the request from the IFPA (The Early Childhood Organisation) to obtain the necessary funding required to commence the building of the headquarters in Walkinstown and will he make a statement on the matter".

**Reply**

The IFPA has acquired premises at 12 Walkinstown Green on a ninety - nine year lease from Dublin Corporation. The premises are in a derelict condition and require complete refurbishment and extension. The IPPA intend to develop a National Resource Centre, a training facility and day care for the local community on the site. Their head office would also operate from their location. Currently they are based at Norm King Street, Dublin 7. The initial estimates of the cost of refurbishment are £500,000. The IPPA expect to meet running costs from the revenue generated by the services being offered.

Currently the IPPA receive £112,000 from the Eastern Health Board. This will increase to £127,000 in year 2000. A meeting with the IPPA took place on 4\* October 1999 to discuss their application for a once off grant of £1.4million. The Eastern Health Board is not in a position to fund such a development. The IPPA has applied to a number of Government Departments for a once off grant of £1.25million. The Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform has indicated that they are seeking EU funding for 75% of the costs. A response is expected by the end of this month.

**3. Cllr. Robin Shortall, T.D.**

To ask the Chief Executive Officer to provide details of drug treatment services in each community care area with specific reference to the services available to drug users who are not living in a catchment area for a treatment centre. Will he also provide details on the numbers on waiting lists in each community care area and the approximate waiting times in each case".

**Reply**

Drug Treatment Services for the South East Sector - Community Care Areas 1, 2 & East Wicklow

**Community Care Area 1**

This takes in the Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown district. Presently there is one Addiction Centre in Patrick Street with two Satellite Services in the area, i.e. Sallynoggin and Mounttown Fitzgerald.

Patrick Street as the Addiction Centre looks after people from the greater Dun Laoghaire area. The Satellites look after people from their locality, e.g. Mounttown Fitzgerald takes people in from the areas of Mounttown and Fitzgerald Flats and Sallynoggin takes people in from Sallynoggin and Glenageary.

***The numbers attending Clinics are as follows:***

Patrick Street	96
Low Dose Programme	3
Sallynoggin	13
Mounttown/Fitzgerald	6

**Community Care Area 2**

This takes in areas of Pearse Street, Irishtown, Ringsted Area, Baggot Street Area and Dublin areas 2,4,6 and 8.

Baggot Street Addiction Centres services individuals from these areas. There are a number of Satellite Services in the area, i.e. Rathmines Health Centre, Dundrum Health Centre, Bride Street Health Centre and Irishtown Health Centre. Rathmines, Dundrum and Bride Street Health Centres are scripting services and are available to people within the immediate areas of the three Health Centres.

Irishtown is a dispensing service and is available to people with an Mshtown/Ringsend address.

***Numbers in treatment at present are as follows:***

Baggot Street	37
Young Persons Programme	25
Bride Street	13
Rathmines	9
Dundrum	8
Irishtown	15-17

The waiting lists for Baggot Street and Patrick Street are constantly moving. There is no one waiting long term. Presently 6 are waiting for a service in Patrick Street since mid August 1999 and 13 are waiting for Baggot Street since mid August 1999.

**East Wicklow**

Wicklow does not have a treatment centre, people are seen in Trinity Court However there are three Satellite Clinics in the Wicklow area, i.e. Ballywaltrim, Fassaugh Row and St Cronin's.

***Numbers in treatment in these Clinics are as follows:***

Ballywaltrim	27
Fassaugh Row	12
St Cronin's	20

There are no waiting lists at present.

Drug Treatment Services for the South West Sector - Community Care Areas 3,4,5 and 9

**Community Care Area 3****Addiction Centres**

Cork Street Clinic  
Castle Street Clinic

**Satellite Clinics**

Dolphin House  
Fathna Mansion  
Merchants Quay

Numbers on Waiting List 48

Longest Time on Waning List 4-6mths

**Community Care Area 4**

Addiction Centre  
MQlbrook Lawns Health Centre

**Satellite Clinics**

St Aengus  
Jobstown  
Lettercaim  
Killinarden  
Brookfield  
Rossfield  
Crumlin (ARC)

Numbers on Waiting List 61

Longest Time on Waiting List 6 months

**Community Care Area 5****Addiction Centres**

Fortune House, Cherry Orchard Hospital  
Aisling Clinic, Cherry Orchard Hospital

**Satellite Clinics**

CASP Programme, Clondalkin  
Deansrath Health Centre

Numbers on Waiting List                   80  
Longest Time on Waiting List   4 - 6 months

**Community Care Area 9**

Our Addiction Counsellors based in Newbridge Health Centre provide a comprehensive counselling services to drug users and their families from the wider catchment area of Kildare, i.e. services operate from Newbridge, Kilcullen, Athy and Castledermot

Drug Treatment Services for the North Sector - Community Care Areas 6,7 &8.

**Community Care Area 6****The Mews Treatment Centre**

Numbers on Treatment	63 9
Numbers on Waiting List	From 1 <sup>st</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept 1999
Longest Time on Waiting List	

**Thompson Centre Satellite Clinic**

Numbers on Treatment	109
Number on Waiting list	0

**Blanchardstown Satellite Clinic**

Numbers on Treatment	44 10 July & August
Numbers on Waiting list	1999
Longest Time On Waiting List	

**Wellmount Satellite Clinic**

Numbers on Treatment	50
Numbers on Waiting List	Transferred to Trinity Court

**Barry Satellite Clinic**

Numbers on Treatment	27
Numbers on Waiting List	0

**Cordiff Satellite Clinic**

Numbers on Treatment	18
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- Numbers on Waiting List 5

**Mulhuddart Satellite Clinic**

- Numbers on Treatment 15
- Numbers on Waiting List 1
- Longest Time on Waiting List 19/7/99

**Community Care Area 7\_City Clinic**

Treatment Centre

- Numbers on Treatment 325
- Numbers on Waiting List 19
- Longest Time on Waiting List June 99

**Domville House Treatment Centre**

- Numbers on Treatment 257
- Numbers on Waiting List 40
- Longest Time on Waiting List Jan 99

**Community Care Area 8**

**Bonnybrook Satellite Clinic**

- Numbers on Treatment 12
- Numbers on Waiting List 4

**Kilbarrack Satellite Clinic**

- Numbers on Treatment 48
- Numbers on Waiting List 0

**Edemnore Satellite Clinic**

- Numbers on Treatment 17
- Numbers on Waiting List 0

**Cooiocfk Satellite Clinic**

- Numbers on Treatment 15
- Numbers on Waiting list 0

**Darndale Satellite Clinic**

- Numbers on Treatment 15
- Numbers on Waiting List 10
- Longest Time on Waiting List March 99
- (All people on Waiting List have been offered appointments in Trinity Court).

**Swords Satellite Clinic**

- Numbers on Treatment 13
- Numbers on Waiting List 0

***For drug users who are not living in a catchment area for a treatment centre their options are as follows:***

- Our Addiction Counsellors provide a service for all drug users outside the catchment areas.
- Addiction Counsellors can assess and refer drug users for detoxification at the inpatient unit in Cuan Dara, Cherry Orchard Hospital, Merchants Quay Project and Beaumont Hospital (through Trinity Court).
- Our Outreach Staff assist individuals who are not in receipt of treatment to access services and make referrals to the service most relevant to their needs.
- The drug users name can be placed on a waiting list at Trinity Court, Pearse Street, Dublin 2.
- HIV/Drugs Helpline - This service provides information, support, guidance and referral for those concerned with any aspect of drug misuse.

**4. Clr. Roisin Shortall T.D.**

'To ask the Chief Executive Officer the reason why there are 463 children (as of 1\* July) awaiting assessment by the social work services having been because of physical abuse, sexual abuse or neglect, if he will give a breakdown of these figures for each community care area, and if he will outline proposals for tackling these waiting lists" .

**Reply**

Details of the current waiting list of child abuse cases awaiting assignment to a social worker are provided below.

It is the policy of community care areas to undertake an initial assessment of all new referrals and to respond to any urgent aspects of the referral. Cases are allocated on the basis of need and urgency and waiting lists are reviewed periodically.

Our Board is currently reviewing our social work service with the assistance of a consultant Areas being examined include case priority waiting lists and supervision.

The Directors of Care are currently engaged in finalising policy and procedure documents and manuals on

- (a) Assessment procedures
- (b) Defining case priorities
- (c) Estimating need
- (d) Defining case closure criteria.

The Department of Health and Children has recently issued new national guidelines in relation to the protection and welfare of children called "Children First". An implementation group with representatives from all the health boards is preparing an implementation plan. These guidelines emphasise the importance of interagency and multidisciplinary input in the management of cases of child abuse. Intervention from other agencies and services may be the most appropriate response in some instances.

Research studies have shown that waiting lists do not provide any systematic objective information about the nature of cases. Providing extra resources solely to reduce waiting lists without any systematic reviews or system prioritisation does not achieve a more efficient management of resources. The expansion of preventative services is essential, thereby reducing the number of cases of child abuse.

Community Care Area	Physical	Sexual	Emotional	Neglect	Total
1	0	1	1	7	9
2	-	-	-	-	Nil
3	2	11	0	8	21
4	40	48	3	48	139
5	-	-	-	-	Nil
6	0	12	0	4	16
7	36	46	32	70	184
8	-	-	-	-	-
9	4	17	3	17	41
10	-	1	-	-	1
Total	82	136	39	154	411

**5. Cllr. Rofsin Shortall T.D.**

'To ask the Chief Executive Officer to provide details of the total number of children for whom individual special care arrangements have been put in place and to provide information in each case as follows:

- (a) Age of child.
- (b) Category of staff involved.
- (c) Weekly cost arrangements.
- (d) Care plan being followed
- (e) Details of education service.

And will the Chief Executive Officer make a statement on the matter".

**Reply**

Currently the number of children for whom individual special care arrangements are in place is seventeen, (3 girls and 14 boys) ranging in age from 11 to 18 years. Although information on each individual child was requested, in order to ensure that no child can be identified from the information the information is provided in the following format

**(a) Age of Child**

11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years	16 years	17 years	18 years
2	1	1	3	3	2	3	2

**(b) Categories of Staff**

The categories of staff are child care workers, agency nurses and security staff. Four children are being cared for by child care workers, seven by agency nurses and six by security staff.

**(c) Weekly costs**

The weekly cost varies between £1000 and £3500 with the average cost amounting to £2000 per week.

**(d) Care Plan**

The care plans for the children/young people are as follows:

Special Care/High Support Placement	7
Residential care	4
Semi/Independent living	4
Return home	2

**(e) Education Services**

Attending Special Schools	2
Receiving Individual Tuition	1
Attending second level schools	3
Attending FAS Course	2
Attending Day Service through learning disabilities programme	2
In Employment	1
Out of School but places being sought	3
Not in education	2 aged 16/17
Encouraged to attend appropriate day service	1

Our Board has twelve High Support places are present A further 48 places will be provided with the construction of twenty four special care places at Ballydowd, Lucan and twenty four high support places at Portrane. Ballydowd will come on stream in mid 2000 and Portrane in this 2001.

We have also carried out a review of our current residential services (both statutory and voluntary). The report, which will be published shortly, will assist us in ensuring that a sufficient number of downstream places are available to meet our requirements.

6. **Cllr. Christy Burke.**

'To ask the Chief Executive Officer if the Eastern Health Board have plans to remove the homeless unit at Charles Street, Dublin 7 and when work will commence and if the Chief Executive Officer would state where the new unit will be located".

**Reply**

The Homeless Persons Unit has been operating from Charles Street since 1987. In recent years the increase in the numbers availing of services in the unit has meant that the facilities have not been adequate for either staff or users of the service. Our Board has been actively seeking an alternative premises. However, it has proven difficult to secure a suitable premises in a central location.

Dublin Corporation have recently purchased Parkgate Hall in Parkgate Street (the former driving test centre). It is intended that this will be used as a centre for homeless services.

In line with the recommendations of the report on Homelessness in the Eastern Health Board, adopted by the Board in May 1999, it is intended that outreach multidisciplinary teams will operate from this premises. It will also provide an emergency placement service for people who present as homeless in the city centre. Extensive refurbishment is required on these premises and it is unlikely that they will be available for occupation until mid 2000 at the earliest.

It is not envisaged that the same number of homeless people will attend this new centre as currently attend at Charles Street for the following reasons.

In line with the recommendations in the our Board's report on homelessness it is proposed to develop new services which will respond to the needs of homeless people at local level thus obviating their need to attend a central location.

A 24 hour freephone telephone service is being developed. This will allow for referral to emergency accommodation to be made over the telephone, which should further reduce the need for homeless people to attend a central location.

It is planned to separate the location of the emergency service from the location of a service to meet ongoing long-term needs of homeless people. At present both needs are dealt with from Charles Street It is proposed that the emergency service will operate from Parkgate Hall, whereas the ongoing needs could be dealt with from local health centres.

7. **Cllr. Christy Burke.**

To ask the Chief Executive Officer if the Eastern Health Board would propose to the Department of Social Community and Family Affairs to increase the Back to School Allowances as some families still find themselves in financial difficulties with present allowances".

**Reply**

The Eastern Health Board administer the Back to School and Footwear Scheme on behalf of the Department of Community and Family Affairs, in accordance with the regulations and conditions laid down by the Department.

This scheme is funded fully by the Department of Social Community and Family Affairs, who are responsible for setting both the qualifying income limits, and the amount of the allowance paid under the scheme. The Eastern Health Board have no role in setting either of these limits.

The Back to School Clothing and Footwear Scheme is currently being evaluated, under a DSCFA programme evaluation committee. Our Board is represented on this committee by a Superintendent Community Welfare Officer.

As in all cases where financial difficulties are being experienced, the Community Welfare Officer may make Exceptional Needs Payments under the general SWA guidelines, where the conditions for making an Exceptional Needs payment are satisfied. In this context there are anomalies particularly in the way the exceptional needs payments can be used to provide further financial assistance.

It is a matter for the Board to propose, if it sees fit, to the Minister to increase the back to school allowance.

The Back to School Clothing and Footwear Scheme has been included in the schedule of Programme evaluations, approved by Government in April 1999. A working Group has been established to undertake a formal evaluation of the scheme. The group includes Superintendent Community Welfare Officer from our Board. The working group meet on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1999 and are currently awaiting submissions from 50 organisations which would include the Combat Poverty Agency, Irish National Organisation for the Unemployed etc. The Group meet again on 5<sup>th</sup> October to consider these submissions. I will revert to the Board when I have an update on the outcome of the evaluation.

**8. Dr. Siobhan Barry.**

"Can the Chief Executive Officer confirm that in circumstances where appropriate relatives are not available, that in line with the 1945 Mental Treatment Act, Community Welfare Officers in all catchment areas of the Eastern Health Board, are prepared to consider, making applications for treatment under the Mental Treatment Act 1945?"

**Reply**

In circumstances where appropriate relatives are not available, our Board has a current arrangement through Programme Headquarters for the making of applications for non voluntary admissions to hospitals under the Mental Treatment Act 1945. This is an interim arrangement. Previously Community Welfare

Officers and the Area Manager in Psychiatry initiated the order where a relative was not available.

However, following the publication of the White Paper "A New Mental Health Act" and in view of the impending legislation our Board is in consultation with appropriate personnel to have arrangements in place to comply with the new legislation. In this regard the White Paper outlines at Section 3.10 a range of persons who are considered appropriate to act as authorised officers. This range of persons and others will be considered by our Board in order to comply with the legislation.

**9. Cllr. Charles O'Connor.**

'To ask the Chief Executive Officer to confirm his plans to implement a major "No Smoking Action Plan" noting the clear public support for such proposals particularly in relation to young people and will he give full details and outline how the plan will be presented to the Board and make a statement".

**Reply**

Our Board recognises that smoking is the single most important preventable cause of death in Ireland.

Our Board's goal is to reduce smoking prevalence by persuading young people not to start and by helping current smokers to quit. Our board aims to reduce the percentage of cigarette smokers in our region by 1 % per year, aiming to reach a point where 80% of our population over the age of 15 are non smokers.

*Our board's Health Promotion Strategy which was adopted by our Board outlines activities which aim:*

- To support individuals who wish to quit smoking through the provision of support services, including counselling and smoking cessation groups
- To support the rights of non-smokers to a smoke free environment
- To reduce the number of young people taking up smoking through education campaigns, skills development, healthy public policy and supportive environments.

In pursuance of these objectives, the board has recently appointed a Health Promotion Officer for Tobacco Control and Cancer Prevention. (Ms Niamh O'Rourke, Health Promotion Department). Our board has also appointed two Health Promotion Officers for schools to work with teachers in implementing the new SPHE (Social, personal and health education) curriculum, which places a large emphasis on reducing the number of young people taking up smoking.

The Health Promotion Officer for Tobacco Control co-ordinates and oversees tobacco control programmes in schools, workplaces, communities and the health services.

She is developing new services in tobacco control and smoking cessation and promoting a re-orientation of the health services towards a health promotion and disease prevention approach.

The Health Promotion Department of our board hosted a seminar in September this year entitled "Towards a Regional Tobacco Control Strategy" which outlined regional and international tobacco control programmes, current debates and priorities to reduce the prevalence of smoking in our region.

Our Health Promotion Department works in consultation with the voluntary groups, Department of Health & Children, Department of Education, Environmental Health Officers, Department of Public Health, Local authorities, the private sector and statutory bodies on tobacco control initiatives in our board.

Workplaces, health facilities, schools and communities are targeted by the department to co-ordinate and support health promotion interventions with the aims of raising awareness, developing skills and building healthy public policy. Through the Health Promotion Resource Unit, our board also offers training, information and materials to support staff and clients.

Summary of Tobacco Control programmes in schools, workplaces, communities and in the health services of the Eastern Health Board region:

### **Schools**

Smokebusters programme in association with the Irish Cancer Society in 32 schools in 1999 which do not have the "Walk Tall" component of SPHE (Social, personnel and health education).

Training for teachers in smoking prevention education

Training for guidance counsellors in Smoking Cessation

Posters, information, and leaflets advertising smoking cessation services

### **Workplaces**

Development and monitoring of smoke free policies for local authorities via Dublin Healthy Cities

Support for medium and large enterprises to implement smoke free policies.

"Public Houses Project" promoting smoke free zones in pubs, particularly in eating areas

### **Communities**

Media advertising of our smoking cessation services

Provision of smoking cessation courses through health centres

'Women, low income and smoking' project in Ballymun with Dublin Healthy Cities

'Informatics 2000\*' project on tobacco information with Dublin Healthy Cities

I have to say No' project with retailers, to prevent the sale of cigarettes to minors

**Health Services**

Smoke free policy for Eastern Health Board premises Support  
for staff who wish to quit

Training in smoking cessation facilitation for Public Health Nurses, addiction  
counsellors and area medical officers Training in Brief Interventions for  
smoking cessation with GP's (ICGP/STAG)

EU research on "Women, smoking and pregnancy" project Motion to ban  
the sale of cigarettes in EHB general hospitals

**10 Cllr. Charles O'Connor.**

"To ask the Chief Executive Officer to further update the Board on the development of Drugs Services in the Tallaght area and will he also outline contacts with government to ensure that funding is provided for this important work and will he make a statement".

**Reply****Outline of Services in Tallaght Area*****Community Drug Team, 515 Main Street, Tallaght***

At present there is a team of Addiction Counsellors, Outreach Workers and clerical support operating from these premises at 515 Main Street, Tallaght The services provided include addiction counselling for individuals in the area of substance misuse and support for family members who are affected by drug use. It was planned to significantly increase the current services provided by this Community Drug Team. Planning permission to extend the premises and provide full addiction services from this centre was approved by South Dublin Council in late 1998. This permission was subsequently appealed to An Bord Pleanala and an oral hearing was held in early December 1998. The appeal was upheld and planning was refused. Our Board is actively seeking suitable alternative premises in the Tallaght area.

***Millbrook Lawns-Addiction Centre***

With the introduction of the new protocols on 1st October 1998, the our Board was required to provide services for persons resident in the Tallaght area who had previously been treated by Overviewl Practitioners outside the Tallaght area or by General Practitioners who were not awarded contracts under the terms of the new protocol. In the absence of our development at 515 Main Street, Tallaght due to planning difficulties, an emergency service was opened in Millbrook Lawns. This

service is provided out of hours, i.e. 5.00 p.m. - 8.00 p.m. Monday to Friday and two hours on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Services provided include medical assessment and appropriate treatment interventions, primary health care and nursing services. Methadone is dispensed under supervision on a seven day basis at this Clinic. Following a recent fire in the Health Centre at Millbrook Lawns an agreement was reached with the local community around a defined catchment area for the Millbrook Lawns Addiction Centre from 1st September 1999. It was further agreed that the maximum number of clients that can be on the programme at any one time would be forty.

After a six month period if potential patients from the St Dominic's Parish present themselves for treatment this number will increase to a maximum of sixty patients for the Clinic as a whole. The potential extra twenty patients can only be taken from the immediate parish area.

#### Local Satellite Clinics

There are five locally based Satellite Clinics operating in the Tallaght area.

St Aengus Community Action Network.

Brookfield Addiction Support Programme.

Community Addiction Response Programme, Killinarden.

Fettercaim Drug Rehabilitation Programme.

Jobstown Assisting Drug Dependency.

These clinics are operated directly by the local community in partnership with our Board. These clinics provide locally based treatment services for people from the different parts of Tallaght who are experiencing problems with addiction. The services operate from Community Centres and a business premises in a local shopping centre. Our Board provides medical assessment, counselling and support for individuals attending these services. The community is involved in providing aftercare and rehabilitation programmes for these individuals. Treatment is provided through local pharmacies that supervise the daily ingestion of medication on their premises. These community projects are funded by a mixture of Task Force funding and Section 65 Grants from our Board.

St Dominic's Community Response Project is another locally based project that is currently developing its services in the Tallaght area. Currently, it provides referral information, family support and education programmes to the local area.

#### ***Other Services (Non Eastern Health Board)***

##### **[1] Tallaght Drugs Task Force**

Has funded and supported the development of 31 separate projects in the Tallaght area and provides a forum of partnership and co-operation for the statutory and community sectors.

[2] The Lorien Project  
Bamardo's, Millbrook Lawns, Tallaght offers a range of services for carers and children of drug users.

[3] Pride Project, Fettercairn  
This is a support group for partners and families of drug misusers.

[4] The Shanty Educational Project  
This service provides a range of educational, community drug training.

[5] Kilnamanmagh Drug Awareness Group  
This group offers a local education service.

[6] Narcotics Anonymous  
This is a fellowship of men and women recovering from drug use.

[7] Reach Out - Killinarden  
Support Group for partners and families of drug misusers.

[8] Tallaght Rehabilitation Project  
This project which is due to open in the Autumn of 1999 will provide structured rehabilitation and job placement for recovering drug misusers in the Tallaght area.

[9] Killinarden Drug Primary Prevention Group  
Provides drug awareness and education courses in the Killinarden area.

[10] Community Addiction Studies Course  
Provides drugs training and education targeted on the needs of the community.

### ***Education***

A full time Education Officer is employed in Community Care Area 4 since early 1997. This Officer endeavours to act as a primary professional in substance misuse, education and prevention. She is actively involved in sourcing best practice, co-ordination of education/prevention initiatives and basing with voluntary, statutory and community groups in the Tallaght area.

### ***Key Workers in the Community***

Our Board recognised the need to provide individual support to persons encountering difficulties because of drug misuse. In 1998\* five support workers were appointed to the various community projects in the Tallaght area:

Killinarden	1 Full Time Post
Brookfield	1 Full Time Post
St Aengus	1 Full Time Post
Jobstown	1 Full Time Post
St Dominic's	1 Full Time Post

### **Central Services**

Detoxification, inpatient beds are provided at the unit in Cherry Orchard Hospital (Cuan Dara) and at Beaumont Hospital.

A Stabilisation Unit under construction at Cherry Orchard is Hearing completion. This unit will provide stabilisation services for pregnant drug misusers.

Refurbishment of a building on the grounds of St Mary's Hospital is currentiy being carried out to provide a Downstream Unit This will free up beds in the Detoxification services thereby increasing me number of places available.

The local political representatives, have been very supportive of me developments in our services in Tallaght and the particular commitment of the Minister of State from the area is very much appreciated. The Minister has met the Programme Manager to discuss the overall development of services in the region and has been kept updated about particular service developments in Tallaght

### **11. Cllr. Charles O'Connor.**

"To ask the Chief Executive Officer to present a report on the development of the new Health Centre at Jobstown, detailing the schedule being followed, the projected opening date and the services to be provided and will he make a statement".

#### **Reply**

Work on Jobstown Health Centre, commenced in February 1999. The work is progressing on schedule and will be complete by Christmas 1999.

Jobstown is one of the four adjoining neighbourhoods/parishes of West Tallaght, located at the western end of the Tallaght by-pass. It has a population in excess of seven thousand people;

- 60% of whom are aged under 25 years
- 31% of whom, are aged 25 -44 years
- 31.2% of households are lone parent households.

The new Health Centre is to incorporate the following services:

- General Practitioner Services
- Out-Patient Clinics
- Physiotherapy

Occupational Therapy  
 Speech and Language Therapy  
 Public Health Nursing  
 Home Help Services  
 Dental Services  
 Area Medical Team  
 District Care Team  
 Day Nursery  
 Social Work  
 Addiction Counselling  
 Adult Psychiatric Services and Day Hospital  
 Administration  
 Family Resource Centre

**12. Cllr. Eric Byrne.**

"Will the Chief Executive Officer please outline the progress to date in acquiring a site or building on the lands in Grangegorman for the Headquarters of the Community Games, as was promised to former Cllr. Joe Connolly".

**Reply**

Our Board adopted a Draft Development Plan for St Brendan's Hospital in June 1998. The main thrust of this plan was to dispose of almost 90% of the entire complex to the Dublin Institute of Technology who plan to develop a third level education facility on the campus. Subsequent to the adoption of this plan Mr. Connolly's request regarding headquarters facilities for the Community Games Organisation was referred to DIT for consideration as part of their plans. It is important to clarify at this point that our Board did not promise to provide a site to the former Cllr Connolly but rather agreed to promote their proposal with DIT as part of their overall plans for the campus.

DIT have been very receptive to assisting the Community Games organisation but their final plan and proposed acquisition of St Brendan's have not been concluded. Mr. Connolly's request does however remain on the agenda of discussion between our Board and DIT.

**13. Cllr. Eric Byrne.**

- -

Is the Chief Executive Officer aware of the growing phenomenon among young people for body piercing fashion and tattoos?

Can he say if he is satisfied that the practitioners of this growing form of "art" which often requires inserting rings in the most unlikely places i.e. lips, nose, eyebrows, bellybuttons and tongues, is medically safe?

Is the licensing of such practices necessary?

## Reply

Tattooing, a technique of marking the skin with colours, has been practised since antiquity. This ancient art form appears to be enjoying a renaissance. Tattooing also has cosmetic medical explanations, including covering "portwine stains" and obscuring colour defects in the lips after facial surgery. It is also promoted as a "permanent" eyeliner.

Tattoos are applied in two ways:

- (a) Permanent tattoos are applied using a machine that pierces the skin with needles.
- (b) Temporary tattoos can be applied by anyone pressing a colour permeated design against the skin.

It is the former "permanent" tattooing that may give rise to concerns relating to health risk.

There is the potential for spread of blood borne pathogens. In addition, there is the potential to cause other local self limiting infections at the site of the tattoo. Temporary inflammation around the tattoo is common for the first day or so. Some people occasionally have an adverse/allergic reaction to a particular pigment used in the tattoos. Several benign and malignant lesions have occurred in tattoos. Up to 1997, 8 documented cases of malignant melanoma occurring in tattoos had been reported in English language literature. Complications may occur if the tattooist is careless about cleanliness or if the person who receives the tattoo doesn't care for the tattooed area properly in the first week or so after it has been applied.

If the tattooist follows appropriate cleanliness procedures and the person who receives a tattoo takes proper care of it, the risk of infection at the site of the tattoo is minimal and the risk of picking up blood borne pathogens would be very low.

While ear piercing has been common particularly amongst females for many years, in more recent times a small number of people have started piercing other parts including their eyebrows, lips, nose, naval and tongue. Again with any of these procedures there is the potential for the spread of blood borne pathogens, wound infection or allergic reactions.

Of these procedures, the one that would be of most concern is that of tongue piercing. Most tongues will swell in the immediate aftermath of puncture. There is the potential to interfere with the airway or swallowing during this period. Further, severe infections can occur in the tongue and mouth following tongue piercing. Cracked teeth are not an uncommon occurrence where jewellery is worn on the tongue and there is the very real risk of choking where jewellery becomes detached.

Licensing of such practices is not necessary, however the drawing up of guidelines in relation to tattooing is under consideration at national level.

**14. Mr. Gerrv McGuire.**

"Can the Chief Executive Officer indicate whether this Board are prepared to undertake the necessary remedial works in order for Fingal County Council to take in charge the Grey Square and the Red Square, Portrane. Can the Chief Executive Officer also reconcile the major differences given in response to Questions at Board level to the undersigned and a recent response by Fingal County Council to a member on the same topic"

**Reply**

Following the sale of these houses, our Board formally requested their taking in charge by Fingal County Council. As part of this it is accepted that remedial works would be necessary to bring the estate to the required standards. I understand that final details from Fingal as to the nature and extent of these works is still awaited.

As soon as these are to hand the matter will be dealt with without delay.

In response to previous questions on this subject the replies thereto were correct. The member will appreciate that it would be inappropriate for me to comment on a reply made at a meeting of Fingal County Council to a public representative who had tabled a question as a member of that Council.

The reply on that occasion was entirely a matter for the Manager.

**15. Dr. K. Harkin**

"With regard to Breastfeeding within the Boards catchment area, could the Chief Executive Officer please,

- estimate present initiation rates and rates at four months
- state the Boards targets for these rates
- outline the Boards strategy to achieve its targets
- make specific referral to the implementation of the "National Breastfeeding Policy for Ireland" (July/1994 Department of Health)

**Reply**

The National Breastfeeding Policy for Ireland (1994 Department of Health) included the following targets in relation to breastfeeding:

An overall breastfeeding initiation rate of 35% by 1996 and 50% by the year 2000.

A breastfeeding rate of 20% among lower socio-economic groups by 1996 and 30% by the year 2000.

A breastfeeding rate of 30% at 4 months by the year 2000.

The most recently available information indicates that 38.2% of mothers were breastfeeding on discharge from hospital within the Eastern Health Board. The national rate was 34%.

In response to the National Breast Feeding Policy for Ireland the Eastern Health Board developed a regional policy in 1997. This includes;

Midwives and public health nurses through the Eastern Health Board region have received an eighteen-hour training programme on breastfeeding. These courses improve knowledge and also ensure uniformity, thereby, reducing the likelihood of conflicting advice being given to breastfeeding mothers.

Booklets entitled Food and Babies and Breast Fed is Best Fed which are available from the Health Promotion Unit of the Department of Health & Children, give practical guidance on good breastfeeding practice, provide answers to the questions often asked by mothers and discuss difficulties which may be encountered and ways to solve them. Information materials are also available from voluntary breastfeeding support groups.

Lactation consultation nurse appointments in two Dublin Maternity Hospitals -Rotunda and National Maternity Hospital - have been made, one full-time and one part-time position. These nurses provide expert advice to new mothers and also act as advisors to the ward staff. Drop-in clinics are run in the hospitals where expectant mothers or discharged mothers can return to the hospital for breastfeeding support.

Breastfeeding support clinics have been set up in various health centres by the public health nurses. The aim of these clinics is to provide support at local level for mothers who wish to continue breastfeeding. Support is also provided in the home by public health nurses.

An Eastern Health Board Breastfeeding Support Project is underway in Community

Care Area 1.' This project is being conducted from the Health Promotion Unit In addition, two public health nurses in Community Care Area 1 have qualified as lactation consultant nurses and seven support groups operate in Community Care Area 1. Preliminary findings show that 56% are breastfeeding on discharge from hospital. At three months 34% of mothers are still breastfeeding and of those breastfeeding 61% of babies had breastmilk as a sole source of nutrition. This is a sample of 150 breastfeeders and it is envisaged that though various interventions staff will learn what is effective and what is ineffective. With this knowledge it is envisaged that it can be used to extend the promotion of breastfeeding in other areas in a user-friendly way.

Close links have been established at area level with local branches of voluntary breastfeeding support groups such as La Leche League and the Irish Childbirth Trust

The Community Mothers Programme has established a number of breastfeeding support groups. Four hundred breastfeeding mothers were supported by the programme in 1998. This is an increase of 15% from 1997.

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Close links have been established at area level with local branches of voluntary breastfeeding support groups such as La Leche League and the Irish Childbirth Trust

The Community Mothers Programme has established a number of breastfeeding support groups. Four hundred breastfeeding mothers were supported by the programme in 1998. This is an increase of 15% from 1997.

**16. Cllr. D. Henry.**

"In relation to National Lottery allocations to Voluntary bodies, as recently circulated, can the Chief Executive Officer give:

- (a) an analysis of applications by Community Care Area
- (b) an analysis by area of financial amounts allocated
- (c) and if he will say if an application was received and considered from group as per details attached and if he can comment on the case and give details of financial assistance given to this group in past three years"

**Reply**

- (a) 10 Community Care Areas - 403 applications (£7,391,411.66 sought). *Details as per attached list*
- (b) 10 Community Care Areas - 242 successful applicants (£885,080 allocated). *Details as per attached list*
- (c) In relation to the specific group mentioned by the member there was no application received in 1999. The application received in 1998 was not granted as a report was pending on standards and quality of counselling services being provided.

**17. Cllr.D.Heney-**

"To ask the Chief Executive Officer to give an update on the Bailymun Day Nursery and say:

- (a) estimate total construction and planning costs
- (b) source of funds - viz (a) Department of Health (b) Boards resources
- (c) when it will be in full operation
- (d) brief Summary of services, numbers to be catered for
- (e) annual running costs for the Board
- (f) level of staff to be required
- (a) if it will provide a new service or cater more fully for existing service and will he make a statement on the matter"

**Reply**

- (a) The estimated cost of the Bailymun Day Nursery is as follows:

Construction	£580,256
Professional fees	<u>£ 59372</u>
	£639,628

- (b) Funding arrangements are:

Eastern Health Board	£454,628
Round Ltd	£160,000

Local fundraising	<u>£ 25,000</u>
	£639,628

The Eastern Health Board element of this funding includes a capital grant of £300,000 allocated by the Department of Health and Children.

- (a) Two additional staff were employed with effect from 20<sup>th</sup> September last. In addition, a further two members of staff will be employed with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> November 1999, at which stage the Day Nursery will be fully operational.
- (b) Ballymun Day Nursery provides pre-school nursery care to local children aged between 2-5 years. When fully operational it will be capable of catering for 60 full-time places in four classrooms.
- (c) Our Board provides funding to Ballymun Day Nursery to meet its day to day running costs. The level of funding provided is based on an agreed budget and reviewed upon receipt of audited accounts. It is estimated that our Board will provide grants amounting to £95,000 to Ballymun Day Nursery in the current year.
- (d) Staffing ratios will be in accordance with the Pre-School Regulations. Accordingly, therefore there will be eight qualified staff employed in the Day Nursery with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> November 1999, augmented by workers on a Community Employment Scheme.
- (e) The Day Nursery will, when fully operational in November 1999, have doubled its previous capacity.

Ballymun Nursery - Tir na nOg - will be officially opened by President Mary McAleese on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 1999.

**112/1999**

## **THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The following report from the Chief Executive Officer was noted.

### **1. Capital Grant 1999.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of letters dated 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 1999 from the Department of Health and Children advising that once-off capital grants totalling £281,000 and £154,000 has been agreed in respect of projects in a number of agencies providing services of national significance in our Board's area.

### **2. Information Technology.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of letter dated 8<sup>th</sup> September, 1999 from the Department of Health and Children advising of the payment of a sum of £386,922.97 in respect of project developments in our Board's area under the Capital Technology Investment Program.

**3. Capital Grant for Development of Services to Persons with an Intellectual Disability.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> September, 1999 from the Department of Health and children advising that our Board's proposals for the expenditure of Capital Grant Funding for the Development of Services to Persons with an Intellectual Disability has been noted.

**4. Mental Handicap Nursing Registration/Diploma Programme**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1999 from the Department of Health & Children advising of funding of £50,000 in respect of Principal Nurse Tutor post and a Nurse Tutor Post as approved with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> March, 1999 for a period of two years initially.

**5. HIV/AIDS Statistics.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of correspondence received from the Department of Health & Children giving details of statistics on HIV/AIDS at 31 May 1999 and 31 July 1999.

**6. Counted In - The Report of the 1999 Assessment of Homelessness in Dublin, Kildare & Wicklow.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of 'Counted In', a report prepared by the ERSI on behalf the Homelessness Initiative which deals with the assessment of homelessness in Dublin, Kildare and Wicklow in 1999.

**7. Child Care Advisory Committee**

The Directions of the Minister for Health in relation to Child Care Advisory Committees outlines that membership of this committee includes representatives of voluntary bodies involved in the provision of various child care services. Recommendations in this regard by way of Report No. 57/1998 (previously circulated) were agreed at our Board at its meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 1999.

I wish to advise members that I have now received notice of the following resignations:

Mr. Owen Keenan  
Mr. Michael Bruton

I recommend approval of the following nominees to replace persons' who have resigned-

Ms. Grainne Burke Barnardos

Ms. Kathleen Kelleher Mater Dei

**8. Waiting List.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 7<sup>\*</sup> September; 1999 in which the Minister for Health and Children, Brian Cowen, TD.,

announces that the Waiting List figures have fallen for the second successive quarter of this year.

**9. Report of the Blood Transfusion Service Board-1998.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 9 September, 1999 in which Mr. Brian Cowen, TD., announces the publication of the report of the Irish Medicines Board on the Blood Transfusion Service Board in respect of year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 1998.

**10. New Agreement on Inter-Country Adoption with Thailand.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 13 September, 1999 in which Mr. Frank Fahy, Minister of State at the Department of Health and Children announces that a working agreement on inter-country adoption has been finalised with authorities in Thailand.

**11. Policy on Private Health Insurance.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies, of press release dated 16 September, 1999 in which Mr. Brian Cowen, TD., Minister for Health and Children announces the launch of the White Paper on Private Health Insurance.

**12. Children First - National Guidelines for the Protection and Welfare of Children.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 21<sup>st</sup> September, 1999 in which Mr. Frank Fahy, TD., Minister of State with special responsibility for children announces the launch of 'Children First - National Guidelines for the Protection and Welfare of Children'.

**13. Heart Health Task Force and the Advisory Forum on Heart Health.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 21<sup>st</sup> September, 1999 which advises of, Mr. Brian Cowen, T.D., Minister for Health and Children meeting with the Heart Health Task Force and the Advisory Forum on Health Heart .

**14. Labour Court Recommendation on nurses pay.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 1999 in which the Minister for Health and Children, Mr. Brian Cowen, TJX, outlines his disappointment of the rejection of Labour Court recommendation on nurses' pay.

**15. New Mental Health Bill**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 22<sup>nd</sup> - September, 1999 in which Mr. Brian Cowen, TD., Minister for Health and Children announces that the Government has approved the main features of the new Mental Health Bill.

**16. New Nursing Students.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 29 September, 1999 in which the Minister for Health and Children, Mr. Brian Cowen, T.D., expresses his delight at the highly successful outcome to this year's competitions for training places on the Nursing Diploma Programmes.

**17. Admissions/Assessment Units at St. Ita's Hospital. Portrane.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> September, 1999 from the Department of Health and Children advising of an additional capital grant of £170,000 towards the equipping and other costs in respect of the upgrading of the admissions/assessment units at St. Ita's Hospital, Portrane.

**18. Joint Committee on Health and Children - Post Polio Support Group.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of letter dated 24 September, 1999 from the Joint Committee on Health and Children together with a submission made to the Committee by the Post Polio Support Group for your attention.

**19. Library Facility - Naas General Hospital.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of letter dated 29<sup>th</sup> September, 1999 from the Department of Health and Children conveying a sanction to a once-off minor capital grant not exceeding £20,000 regarding the upgrading of the library facility at Naas General Hospital.

**20. Childcare Services.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> October, 1999 from the Department of Health and Children advising of additional grants being made available for Child care Services.

**21. Tallaght Hospital Board.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of letter dated 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 1999 from the Department of Health and Children informing of the re-appointment of Mr. Seamus O'Brien to membership of the Tallaght Hospital Board.

**22. "Reilly's HIV Unit at St. Ita's Hospital Portrane.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies- of letter dated 7<sup>th</sup> October, 1999 from the Department of Health and Children which conveys sanction for a capital grant not exceeding £100,000 for the replacement of pipe work and a back-up boiler for the heating system in the "Reilly's Hill" unit at St Ita's Hospital, Portrane.

**23. Professional members representation on the Eastern Regional Health Authority.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of letter dated 29 September, 1999 from Mr. Donal O'Shea, Regional Chief Executive, Eastern Regional Health Authority in response to questions raised at the September meeting of our Board regarding professional members representation on the Eastern Regional Health Authority.

**24. Ireland - Northern Ireland - NCI Cancer Consortium.**

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of Press Release dated 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 1999 to advise of the signing of an historic memorandum of understanding by Health Ministers from Ireland, Northern Ireland and the United States, that establishes an Ireland - Northern Ireland - NCI (National Cancer Institute) Cancer Consortium.

**25. Christmas Campaign - Christmas Cheers to Christmas Tears.**

I wish to advise members that I have been notified that our Board's campaign last Christmas (Christmas Cheers to Christmas Tears) won first place in it's section at the 1999 award winning ceremony sponsored by Transport Display Incorporated.

**113/1999**

**REPORT OF FINANCE & PROPERTY COMMITTEE/FINANCIAL POSITION OF 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY, 1999  
AND OTHER MATTERS - F3/1999.**

On a proposal by Mrs Quinn, seconded by Mr Aspell, Report no F3/1999 (copy filed with official minute) was agreed.

**114/1999**

**YOUTH AS A RESOURCE - PROMOTING THE HEALTH OF YOUNG PEOPLE  
AT RISK**

Following a powerpoint presentation by Ms Mary Van Lieshout, Health Promotion Officer and discussion to which Cllr. J Reilly, Cllr M O'Donovan, Cllr A. Devitt, Deputy R. Shorthall, Cllr Dr. D. Fitzpatrick, Cllr. E. Byrne, Cllr. P. Vance, Cllr. C. Burke, Cllr. J D. Byrne, Mrs Quinn and Cllr L. Butler contributed and which the Chief Executive Officer replied. Report No: 34/1999 was noted.

**115/1999**

**THREE YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME FOR 'TEN YEAR ACTION  
PLAN FOR SERVICES FOR OLDER PERSONS 1999-2008'**

At the request of the Chairman it was agreed to refer Report no. 35/1999 (copy filed with official minute) to the Acute Hospitals and Services for the Elderly Programme Committee.

**116/1999****REPORT ON THE EPIDEMIOLOGY OF TUBERCULOSIS IN THE EASTERN HEALTH BOARD REGION IN 1998**

Following a verbal presentation from Dr. Brian O'Herlihy, Director of Public Health and discussion to which Dr J. O'Reilly, Dr M. Laffoy, Mrs Quinn, Cllr. A. Devitt and the Chairman contributed, Report no. 36/1999 (copy filed with official minute) was agreed.

**117/1999****ACTIVITIES OF IRISH PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES**

At the request of the Chairman it was agreed to refer Report no. 37/1999 (copy filed with official minute) to the Mental Health, Addiction and Social Development Programme Committee.

**118/1999****NEEDLE EXCHANGE IN THE EASTERN HEALTH BOARD REGION; AN ANALYSIS OF FIRST ATTENDERS 1990-1997**

Following a slide presentation by Dr Joe Barry, Public Health Specialist, and discussion to which Mrs C. Quinn, Dr. K.. Harkin, Mr G. Maguire, Deputy R. Shorthall and Cllr. C. Burke contributed. The following motion was proposed by Dr K. Harkin and seconded by Dr. J. Reilly

*"Identify areas poorly served with needle exchange facilities and meet this need as a matter of urgency".*

The motion was agreed.

Dr J. Reilly congratulated Dr. Joe Barry and Ms L. Mullen on their report and acknowledged ' the determination of Mr P. McLoughlin, Chief Executive Officer in addressing needs in this area.

**119/1999****REVIEW OF ADEQUACY OF CHILD CARE AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES IN 1998**

On a proposal by the Chairman, it was agreed to refer the report on the Review of adequacy of Child Care and Family and Support Services in 1998 to the Child Care Advisory Committee and Community Services and Services for Children & Families Programme Committee.

**120/1999****HEPATITIS B, HEPATITIS C & HIV IN IRISH PRISONERS: PREVELENCE AND RISK**

On a proposal by the Chairman it was agreed to refer Report no 39/1999 ( copy filed with official minute) to Health Promotion, Mental Health, Addiction & Social Development Programme Committee.

**121/1999****REPORT ON DENTAL SERVICES IN THE EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

At the request of the Chairman agreed to hold a special Board meeting, at a future date to be agreed, to discuss Report no. 40/1999 (copy filed with official minute).

**122/1999****DISPOSAL OF SITE AT KBLCULLEN HEALTH CENTRE**

On a proposal by Mrs Quinn, seconded by Mr G. Maguire, it was agreed to adopt the proposal contained in Report no. 41/1999 (copy filed with official minute).

**123/1999****DISPOSAL OF SITE AT CHERRY ORCHARD HOSPITAL**

It was agreed to reconsider Report no. 42/1999 (copy filed with official minute) at the monthly Board meeting in November 1999.

**124/1999****PROGRESS REPORTS FROM PROGRAMME COMMITTEES****1. *Health Promotion, Mental Health, Addiction &. Social Development***

On a proposal by Mr. G. Maguire, seconded by Deputy R. Shorthall, it was agreed to adopt the report. The following matters were dealt with in the report:

- (f) Visit to new Acute unit in the Adelaide and Meath Hospital incorporating the National Children's Hospital and report on services-'
- (c) The report on St Brendan's Hospital Development Plan

**2. *Services for Persons with Disabilities***

On a proposal by Deputy Shorthall seconded by Mr G. Maguire it was agreed to adopt the report The following matters were dealt with in the report

- (a) Report to Programme Committee for Services for Persons with Disabilities/ Mental Handicap services for Community Care Area 1.
- (b) Report on Services for Persons with Physical and Sensory Disabilities in Community Care Area 1.
- (c) Report on Capital Development-Services for People with Physical and Sensory Disabilities 1999.

### **3 Acute Hospitals and Services for the Elderly**

On a proposal by Mr G. Maguire, seconded by Cllr. A. Devitt, it was agreed to adopt the report The following matters were dealt with in the report.

- (d) Visit to St Clare's Home and report on local services.
- (e) Capital Development projects at James Connolly Memorial Hospital and Naas General Hospital.
- (f) Draft Development Control Plan for St Columcille's Hospital.
- (g) Services for Older Persons/Winter Initiative 1999/2000

### **4 Community Services and Services for Children and Families**

On a proposal by Dr. J. Reilly, seconded by Mrs Quinn, it was agreed to adopt the report. The following matters were dealt with in the report.

- (a) Report on Services in Community Care Area 3
- (b) Report on Childhood Vaccinations
- (c) Meningococcal Infection
- (d) Report on the Prevention of E Coli 0157; H7 Infection A Shared Responsibility - Food Safety Authority Ireland.

## **125/1999**

### **NOTICES OF MOTION**

- 1 The motion in the name of Cllr. T. Cullen, Cllr M O'Donovan, Cllr J. O'Reilly, Cllr R. Shorthall, Cllr J. Wall, Cllr D Tipping and Cllr. Dr. E Byrne, regarding the provision of dental services in the Eastern Health Board was deferred to the special meeting of our Board on this matter.

- 2 The following motion was proposed by Cllr. R Shorthall TD

That this Board reviews its policy in relation to the treatment of Elderly patients in General Hospitals with specific reference to grouping all elderly patients together regardless of their medical conditions".

The motion was seconded by Mrs Quinn and following discussion to which Dr. K Harkin, Dr S. Barry and Dr J. Reilly contributed and to which Mr S. O'Brien replied, it was agreed mat Mr O'Brien would review this matter with our Board's General Hospitals and the Voluntary General Hospitals and forward a report in this regard to Cllr. Shorthall.

- 3 The motion in the name of Deputy Shortall regarding Services for the Elderly was, at her request deferred to the November meeting of our Board.
- 4 The motion in the name of Deputy Shortall regarding meals services to senior citizens complexes was, at her request deferred to the November meeting of our Board.
- 5 The following motion was proposed by Dr S. Barry

"That this Board would consider in view of the shortage of trained psychiatric nurses of de-designating some unfilled psychiatric positions to other paramedical clinical disciplines, for example Social Work, Psychology and Occupational Therapy.

The motion was seconded by Cllr A. Devitt and following a discussion to which Mr G. Maguire and Dr J. Reilly contributed and to which the Chief Executive Officer replied. It was agreed to review this motion, taking cognisance of the five year plan being prepared at present.

**126/1999****CORRESPONDENCE**

Items of correspondence, as referred to in the Chief Executive Officer's report, were noted.

**127/1999****OTHER BUSINESS**

The following emergency motion was proposed by Mr G. Maguire

"Propose mat this Board as a matter of urgency, call on all sides involved in the impending nurses strike to come together with a view to resolving the issue, thereby ensuring that patient care is maintained at an optimum level"

The motion was agreed.

The meeting concluded at 8.20 p .m..

**CORRECT:**

**P.McLOUGHLIN  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**CHAIRMAN**