



EASTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

**Minutes of proceedings of Special Board Meeting
held in the Board Room, Dr Steevens Hospital, Dublin 8,
on 13th January 2003 at 6:00p.m.**

Present

Dr. Siobhan Barry
Cllr Christy Burke
Cllr Laurence Butler
Cllr Catherine Byrne
Cllr Eric Byrne
Mr Martin Cowley
Cllr L Creaven
Cllr A Devitt
Cllr J Dillon Byrne
Mr J Dolan
Cllr P Doran
Ald J Doyle
Cllr A Doyle
Mr J Fallon
Cllr T Fox

Cllr P Hand
Ms N Harvey
Cllr D Heney
Dr M Laffoy
Mr P Ledwidge
Cllr C McGrath
Ald M Mooney
Dr B Murphy
Mr M Murphy
Cllr Dr W O'Connell
Cllr C O'Connor
Mrs C Quinn
Cllr J Reilly
Sen T Ridge
Cllr R Shortall T D
Cllr J Stafford
Cllr J Wall

In the Chair

Alderman Joe Doyle

Apologies

Mr G Brady, Dr K Harkin, Cllr D Murray

In Attendance

Mr L Woods, Mr J Breslin, Mr M Devine, Ms A Fitzgerald, Ms M Cronin, Ms M Browne, Mr D Beaton, Mr B Kirwan, Mr A Graham, Ms B Kiberd, Ms E O Donovan, Ms Y O'Neill, Ms B Lawless, Mr J Curry, Ms R Ryan, Ms D Nurse, Ms A O'Flynn, Ms Helen Stokes, Ms C Ivory.

Opening Prayer

The Chairman agreed to suspend standing orders to allow Cllr C Burke to ask for a statement from the Chief Executive on the situation in the Accident & Emergency Departments across the Region. The Chief Executive advised members that a statement had been issued by the Authority in respect of the situation which had arisen over the weekend (*copy appended to the official minute*) and that the situation was being monitored on an ongoing basis by the Authority.

01/03/11

Consideration of Draft Service Plan 2003

The draft Service Plan 2003, which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting, was presented by Mr Jim Breslin, Director of Planning, Commissioning and Change. Mr Breslin outlined the context in which the draft Service Plan had been prepared, the process to date, the key areas addressed by the Finance & Property Committee and gave an overview of the main provisions in the Service Plan (*copy appended to the official minute*).

There followed a discussion to which the following members contributed:-
The Chairman, Mr J Fallon, Dr S Barry, Cllr E Byrne, Cllr J Dillon Byrne, Mr J Dolan, Mr M Murphy, Cllr D Heney, Mr M Cowley, Cllr R Shortall, and Cllr C Burke.

In the course of the debate members highlighted the following points:-

- The level of allocation is insufficient to provide for the need for residential and day care services in the Intellectual Disability Services.
- The difficulties in integrating mental health services with primary care.
- Provision for the continuation of services developed in 2001/2002
- The impact of the requirement for VFM savings on the ability to provide services
- Provision of nursing home beds for older persons
- Levels of funding inadequate to provide services needed in region and the impact of the inadequacy of the funding on service delivery for the region.
- The impact of the absence of supplementary funding for 2003
- Concern regarding outstanding funding issues such as the Harmon funding.
- Concern over the impact of employment reduction on the delivery of services
- Need for funding for minor capital
- Achievable activity levels against backdrop of cost pressures

Following the discussion, Mr Jim Breslin clarified the position in respect of some of the issues raised and clarified the process for members in the event that the Service Plan was not adopted by the Board.

The Chairman proposed that the Service Plan 2003 be adopted and there followed a roll-call vote. Twenty-one members voted in favour of the adoption of

the Service Plan 2003, nine members voted against and one member abstained. Accordingly the Service Plan 2003 was adopted by the Board.

The members voted as follows:-

BOARD MEMBER	In Favour of the adoption of the Service Plan	Against the Adoption of the Service Plan	Abstain
Dr. Siobhan Barry		√	
Cllr Christy Burke		√	
Cllr Laurence Butler			
Cllr Catherine Byrne	√		
Cllr Eric Byrne		√	
Mr Martin Cowley	√		
Cllr L Creaven	√		
Cllr A Devitt	√		
Cllr J Dillon Byrne		√	
Mr J Dolan	√		
Cllr P Doran	√		
Ald J Doyle	√		
Cllr A Doyle	√		
Mr J Fallon		√	
Cllr T Fox	√		
Cllr P Hand	√		
Ms N Harvey			√
Cllr D Heney	√		
Dr M Laffoy	√		
Mr P Ledwidge		√	
Cllr C McGrath	√		
Ald M Mooney	√		
Dr B Murphy	√		
Mr M Murphy		√	
Cllr Dr W O'Connell	√		
Cllr C O'Connor	√		
Mrs C Quinn	√		
Cllr J Reilly	√		
Sen T Ridge	√		
Cllr R Shortall		√	
Cllr J Stafford	√		
Cllr J Wall		√	
Total	21	9	1

The Chairman then put the following motion in the names of Cllr A Doyle, Cllr A Devitt, Cllr T Ridge and Cllr C Byrne to the members for consideration.

That the ERHA in line with its responsibility under the Health Amendment Act 1996 adopts its Service Plan 2003 within the expenditure limits as specified by the government.

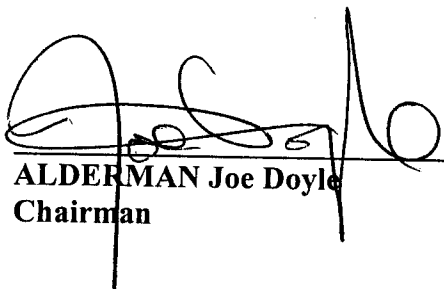
However, the Authority expresses concern at the inadequacy of these expenditure limits, as they do not allow for a satisfactory response to the public needs in priority areas such as Intellectual Disabilities, Physical & Sensory Disabilities, Mental Health, Acute Hospital pressures, Alcohol treatment Services and homelessness and calls on the Minister for Health to make extra funding available during 2003 to allow further development of these services.

Furthermore we are seeking a guarantee that the Expenditure levels specified cannot, and will not, be reduced at any time or for any reason during 2003.

On the proposal of Cllr A Devitt, seconded by Cllr T Ridge, the motion was agreed unanimously and the Chief Executive undertook to bring the motion to the attention of the Minister and the Department of Health and Children.

The meeting concluded at 20:10

CORRECT
Liam Woods
Chief Executive


ALDERMAN Joe Doyle
Chairman

DATE