

BORD SLAINTE AN OIR-DHEISCIRT

103588



Ceannarus,
Cill Chainnigh.
7 Meitheamh, 2001.

Do Gach Comhalta Den mBord:

A Chara,

The June meeting of the Board will take place on Thursday, 14th June, 2001 in the Board Room in Kilkenny at 4.15p.m.

The Programme Committees will meet before the Board meeting at 2.30p.m. Each member is requested to attend the meeting of the Committee of which he or she is a member.

Mise, le meas,

Leas Priomh Oifigeach Feidhmeachain.

CIAR

1. Confirmation of Minutes *
2. Sealing of Documents.
3. Appointment of Member of the Board to the Management Board of Peamount Hospital, Dublin.
4. Finance Report F.293
5. Monthly Reports:
 - 5.1 Special Hospitals' Committee S.350*
 - 5.2 Community Care Committee C.348*
 - 5.3 General Hospitals' Committee G.352*
 - 5.4 Chief Executive Officer R.336*

6. Notice of Motion:

"What is the up to date position regarding the delivery of Autism Service in the South East with particular reference to proposed development in Myshall, Co. Carlow". (John Coonan)

* Copy enclosed.

South Eastern Health Board
Bord Sláinte an Oir-Dhéiscirt

**Minutes of Meeting of the Board held at Ceannarus,
Kilkenny, on Thursday, 10th May, 2001 at 4.15 p.m.**

- Chairman:** Mr. H. Quinlan
- Attendance:** Mr. T. Ambrose, Mrs. A. Blackmore, Mrs. D. Bolger, Messrs. G. Byrne, M. Deering, P. Delaney, Dr. A.N. de Souza, Messrs. J. Fahey, M. Fitzpatrick, Dr. F. Gallagher, Mrs. J. Johnson, Dr. M. Kelleher, Mrs. C. Long, Dr. S. McCarthy, Mr. T. Maher, Mr. M. Meaney, Mrs. K. O'Leary, Dr. D. Ormonde, Mr. S. Ryan and Dr. J. Stacey.
- Apologies:** Messrs L. Carthy, J. Coonan, Mrs. A. Gee, Dr. J. Gallagher.
- Staff:** Messrs. John Cooney, Chief Executive Officer, Tom Beegan, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Peter Finnegan, John Magner, Regional Managers, Dr. Orlaith O'Reilly, Director of Public Health, Eugene Halley, Director of Finance, Peter Ryan, Technical Services Officer, Mrs. Vivienne Tegg, Director of Human Resources, Mr. Seamus Butler, Management Services Officer, Mr. Tom Byrne, Director of Capital Projects and Ms. Jo Redmond, Secretary.
- Votes of Sympathy:** The Chairman and Members expressed a vote of sympathy with the following:
- Ms. Silé Moore, St. Canice's on the tragic death of her brother.
 - Dr. Patricia Prendiville, Head Office, on the death of her father.
 - Ms. Miriam O'Neill, Head Office on the death of her mother.

384.1 Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 The minutes of the special meeting held on the 12th April, 2001 as circulated, regarding the new Health Strategy were adopted on the proposal of Mr. Byrne and seconded by Mr. Fitzpatrick.

1.2 The minutes of the Board meeting held on 12th April, 2001, as circulated, were adopted on the proposal of Mrs. D. Bolger and seconded by Mr. T. Maher.

384.2 Documents for Sealing:

The application of the official seal to the documents listed in the schedule to the official copy of the minutes was authorised on the proposal of Mr. T. Maher and seconded by Mr. G. Byrne.

384.3 Finance Report :

Finance Report F.292 was noted.

384.4 Monthly Reports:

5.1 Community Care Committee: Minutes C.347 of meeting held on 12th April, 2001 as circulated, were adopted on the proposal of Mr. M. Fitzpatrick and seconded by Mr. G. Byrne.

1. It was proposed by Mr. Fitzpatrick, seconded by Mrs. Bolger:

“That the Board write to the Minister for Health & Children to review guidelines for eligibility for Medical Cards as a matter of urgency.”

2. It was proposed by Mrs. O’Leary, seconded by Mr. Ryan and agreed:

“That Mr. Watson, Waterford Regional Hospital be invited to address the Board on the progress of the review group on cancer strategy and the need for a radiotherapy unit.”

5.2 General Hospitals’ Committee: Minutes G.351 of meeting held on 12th April, 2001 as circulated, were adopted on the proposal of Mr. G. Byrne and seconded by Mr. T. Ambrose.

5.3 Special Hospitals’ Committee: Minutes S.349 of meeting held on 12th April, 2001 as circulated, were adopted on the proposal of Mrs. C. Long and seconded by Mr. M. Fitzpatrick.

384.5 Report of Chief Executive Officer:

Report R.335 of the Chief Executive Officer as circulated was adopted on the proposal of Mr. G. Byrne and seconded by Mrs. D. Bolger.

The meeting then concluded.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CHAIRMAN

DATE

FINANCE REPORT TO JUNE 2001 BOARD MEETING1. Financial Position at 30th April 2001

Expenditure exceeded budget by £2,882,000 at 30th April 2001. Of this, £1,849,000 relates to Demand Led Schemes, Superannuation and Clinical Waste in respect of which additional funding is anticipated. As a result, the excess may be revised to £1,033,000. The corresponding figure at 31st March was £618,000.

The financial position is detailed on the attached tables by expense type (Table A) and Hospital/Service (Table B) and may be summarised as follows:

<u>Programme/Service</u>	<u>Pay £000</u>	<u>Non-Pay £000</u>	<u>Total @ 30/4/01 £000</u>	<u>Total @ 31/3/01 £000</u>
Community Care	323	(103)	220	187
Demand Led Schemes		(916)	(916)	(429)
General Hospitals	(504)	(844)	(1348)	(962)
Ambulance	6	(72)	(66)	(60)
Special Hospitals	82	(113)	(31)	(91)
Central Services	67	(479)	(412)	(265)
Superannuation	(828)		(828)	(380)
Sub Total	(854)	(2527)	(3381)	(2000)
Income			499	504
Sub Total	(854)	(2527)	(2882)	(1496)
<u>Plus Anticipated Additional Allocation</u>	851	998	1849	878
Net Total	(3)	(1529)	(1033)	(618)

2. Commentary on Financial Position at 30th April 2001

Excess of expenditure over budget, following adjustment for anticipated additional allocation at 30th April 2001 was £1,033,000. This represents an increase of £415,000 over corresponding figure at 31st March 2001

A number of issues contributing to this increase and the cumulative excess spending at 30th April 2001 have been the subject of correspondence/discussion with Department Officials with a view to additional funding. These include:

- Additional NCHD posts and increased costs of medical overtime.
- Additional costs of nursing overtime arising from recruitment difficulties.
- More expensive medicine treatment regimes.
- Additional costs associated with increased energy and blood prices.
- Increase in number of persons being subvented in Nursing Homes.
- Increased costs of Home Help Pay, arising from pay increases, over that funded.

- Additional costs arising from higher level of take up of vaccination programmes.
- Increased cost of liability insurance premia
- Additional costs of advertising and recruitment.

Additional funding resulting from the above would offset cumulative excess of £1.033m at 30th April 2001.

However, within these overall figures there are areas of budgetary pressure arising from increased activity. These will require to be continuously monitored and the relevant budgets closely controlled.

3. Acute Hospital Activity - January-April 2001

The following table shows the variance in activity when compared with the same period in 2000.

Hospital	Inpatient Numbers		Inpatient Days		Day Cases	
	Numbers	%	Number	%	Number	%
Waterford	-132	-2	-3366	-7	+347	+7
Kilkenny	-8	-	+1773	+9	+323	+30
Wexford	+412	+9	+111	-	+249	+27
Clonmel	-78	-3	+614	+4	-75	-8
Cashel	-9	-	-62	-	+137	+22
Kilcreene	-16	-4	-122	-4	-	-
Totals	+169	+1	-1052	-1	+981	+12

The above figures show that:

- Overall, inpatient activity was at the same level
- Significant increase (9%) in inpatient numbers in Wexford General Hospital with variances in inpatient numbers in other Hospitals.
- Significant increase in inpatient days in Kilkenny (9%) and Clonmel (4%) and reduction in Waterford Regional (7%).
- Continuing significant increase (12%) in day cases in all hospitals except Clonmel.

7th June 2001

TABLE A

SUMMARY OF EXPENSES JANUARY- APRIL 2001

	BUDGET	BUDGET	EXPENSE	VARIANCE
	ANNUAL	TO-DATE	TO-DATE	() = Advers
	£000	£000	£000	£000
PAY				
Administration.	21,261	6,563	6,542	21
Medical	38,392	12,068	12,535	(467)
Dental	2,201	716	605	111
Nursing.	93,838	30,153	29,956	197
Paramedical.	19,944	6,353	5,951	402
Support Staff	46,082	15,849	16,231	(382)
Maintenance.	3,555	1,179	1,087	92
Superannuation.	15,110	4,916	5,093	(177)
Gratuities	3,020	984	1,635	(651)
TOTALS:	243,403	78,781	79,635	(854)
NON PAY:				
Medicines.	30,204	9,954	10,762	(808)
Blood Products	1,979	667	635	32
Medical Gases	434	143	161	(18)
Appliances\Equipment.	16,888	5,645	5,959	(314)
Pathology.	3,129	1,052	1,128	(76)
X-Ray.	1,045	344	398	(54)
Provisions.	3,098	1,019	1,079	(60)
Energy.	2,481	933	1,175	(242)
Laundry/ Cleaning.	2,735	902	943	(41)
	1,411	456	526	(70)
Furn/Crockery	655	215	236	(21)
Maintenance.	2,720	797	778	19
Farm/Grounds	225	74	60	14
Transport.	1,561	508	630	(122)
Travel.	3,519	1,157	1,129	28
Bank Costs	144	47	47	(0)
Insurance/Rents	4,864	2,397	2,703	(306)
Office.	3,358	1,104	1,226	(122)
Computer	882	291	301	(10)
Allowances.	4,925	1,552	1,517	35
Capitation.	27,668	8,986	9,280	(294)
Section 65.	11,962	3,933	3,933	0
Miscellaneous.	10,144	3,007	3,105	(98)
SUB TOTAL:	136,031	45,183	47,710	(2,527)
EXPENDITURE TOTAL:	379,434	123,964	127,345	(3,381)
INCOME:	28,097	9,269	9,768	499
NET TOTAL:	351,337	114,695	117,577	(2,882)

TABLE B

REVENUE EXPENDITURE REPORT JANUARY -APRIL 2001

	BUDGET	BUDGET	EXPENSE	VARIANCE
	ANNUAL	TO-DATE	TO-DATE	() = Advers
		£000	£000	£000
General Hospitals				
Waterford Regional Hospital	67,038	21,816	22,158	(342)
St. Luke's Kilkenny	22,677	7,406	8,043	(637)
Wexford General	24,092	7,860	8,013	(153)
St. Joseph's Clonmel	14,049	4,584	4,629	(45)
Our Lady's Cashel	7,397	2,406	2,497	(91)
Orthopaedic Hospital Kilcreene	4,116	1,428	1,449	(21)
District Hospitals	5,676	1,862	1,921	(59)
Ambulance	7,507	2,462	2,528	(66)
Sub Totals	152,552	49,824	51,238	(1,414)
Special Hospitals				
St. Luke's Hospital	11,349	3,618	3,648	(30)
St. Otteran's Hospital	8,704	2,838	2,871	(33)
St. Canice's Hospital	8,855	2,794	2,809	(15)
St. Dymphna's Hospital	7,305	2,381	2,449	(68)
St. Senan's Hospital	10,050	3,213	3,052	161
Training School	608	199	259	(60)
Mental Handicap	2,402	786	873	(87)
Geriatric Hospitals	22,519	7,235	7,138	97
Welfare Homes	1,015	335	331	4
Sub Totals	72,807	23,399	23,430	(31)
Community Care				
Pay-Nursing	7,392	2,428	2,324	104
-Medical	4,492	1,238	1,261	(23)
-Dental	2,201	716	605	111
-Other	27,364	9,505	9,374	131
Non -pay-Medicines	21,925	7,208	7,703	(495)
-Cash Allowance	4,925	1,552	1,517	35
-Capitation	27,384	8,893	9,162	(269)
-Other	28,595	9,401	9,691	(290)
Sub Totals	124,278	40,941	41,637	(696)
Central & Other Services				
Pay- Salaries	6,398	1,831	1,764	67
Superannuation	18,130	5,900	6,728	(828)
Non-pay-Bank Costs	144	47	47	(0)
-Insurance	1,362	1,247	1,547	(300)
-Other	3,479	682	836	(154)
External Hospitals	284	93	118	(25)
Sub Totals	29,797	9,800	11,040	(1,240)
Expenditure Total.	379,434	123,964	127,345	(3,381)
Less Income	28,098	9,269	9,768	499
Nett Total	351,336	114,695	117,577	(2,882)

BORD SLAINTE AN OIR-DHEISCIRT

Ceannarus
Cill Chainnigh

7 Meitheamh 2001

SPECIAL HOSPITALS COMMITTEE

DEARDAOIN 14 MEITHEAMH 2001 - 2.30 i.n.

CLÁR

1. Minutes.*
2. Finance.*
3. Review of Service Plan.
4. Submission from the South Eastern Health Board to the County & City Development Board.*
5. Nursing Homes Update.
6. Project Updates
7. Hospital Visits:-

St. Senan's Hospital, Enniscorthy
Sacred Heart Hospital, Carlow

* Copy enclosed.

BORD SLAINTE AN OIR-DHEISCIRT
SPECIAL HOSPITALS COMMITTEE

Minutes of monthly meeting of Special Hospitals Committee held at Ceannarus, Kilkenny, on Thursday, 10th May, 2001, at 2.30 p.m.

Present: Ms. Cora Long, Dr. Michael Kelliher and Mr. Hilary Quinlan.

Apologies: Mr. Leo Carthy, Chairman, Messrs. John Coonan, Jack Crowe, Pat Leahy, Michael Meaney, Jimmy Murnane, and Drs. Higgins and Forde.

In Attendance: Mr. John Magner, Regional Manager and Ms. Eleanor Moore, Secretary.

350.1 / Minutes and Matters Arising:-

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 12th April, 2001 were adopted on the proposal of Ms. Long and seconded by Dr. Kelliher.

The committee extended their best wishes to Cllr. Jack Crowe and wished him a speedy recovery from his illness.

The Regional Manager informed the Committee that Mr. J. Hough, Principal Nurse Tutor and Dr. J. Lynch, Consultant Psychiatrist, St. Luke's Hospital, Clonmel had retired. Both Mr. Magner and the members acknowledged the contribution that both Dr. Lynch and Mr. Hough had made to the development of Mental Health Services.

350.2 Finance:-

The contents of Finance Report F.292 were noted and discussed. Expenditure exceeded budget by £1,496,000 at 31st March, 2001. Of this £878,000 relates to Demand Led Schemes, Superannuation, and Clinical Waste in respect of which additional funding is anticipated. As a result, the excess may be revised to £618,000. Factors contributing to this increase and the cumulative position at 31st March, 2001 were as follows:-

- Increased medical pay costs in Acute Hospitals arising from additional posts and increase in level of medical overtime. Discussions are taking place with the Department regarding funding for additional posts.

- Increase in hospital nursing overtime expenditure due to recruitment difficulties and necessity to employ special nurses.
- Increase in non pay costs in Acute Hospitals.
- Under the headings of medicines, medical appliances, pathology, energy, training and recruitment.

350.3 Comhairle na nOspideal 8th Report 1995-2000.

The end of term report of the 8th Comhairle whose five year term of office expired on the 15th December, 2000 has been published. This report is intended to give a comprehensive account of the activities of Comhairle over the past five years. The Health Act 1970 gives Comhairle both executive and advisory roles. It regulates the number and type of new and replacement consultant and senior/specialist registrar appointments in public hospitals, specifies qualifications and also advises on the organisation and operation of services. The number of consultant posts approved between 1996 and 2000 for the South Eastern Health Board was 46.

350.4 Update on Nursing Homes.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the above. The Regional Manager submitted the guidelines for nursing home subventions to the committee. It was decided that this item would be again placed on the special hospitals agenda for June 2001.

350.5 Freedom of Information - Annual Report 2000

A discussion took place regarding the above. A total of 191 formal requests under the legislation were submitted. The South Eastern Health Board responded to these requests. During the year contacts with staff from the Information Commissioner's office have related to appeals by requesters. To date the Information Commissioner has not altered or annulled any decision taken after internal review by this Health Board. The priorities for 2001 include.

- Provide advice, assistance and training to Research Officers and Decision Makers.
- Monitor implementation of the F.OI. legislation within the Board.
- Maintain excellent working relationships with office of the Information Commissioner.
- Evaluate Research Officer resources and appointment of Research Officer in Tipperary, Carlow/Kilkenny.

- Participate in selection and implementation of a networked F.O.I. logging and tracking system.
- Work with the National F.O.I. Officers Group to implement internet laws project and staff information guidelines.

The committee complimented Mr. J. Hogan on his report.

350.6 Project Updates:-

Acute Psychiatric Unit, St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny.

Construction due to be completed by June 2001.

21 Bed Residential Unit and Day Centre for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities, Kilcreene, Hospital.

Construction nearing completion.

Cashel/Clonmel Projects

Tenders have been received for the first phase and have been submitted to the architects.

350.7 Hospital Visits:-

The reports on the hospital visits to St. Luke's Hospital, Clonmel and St. John's Hospital, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford were noted by the committee.

SECRETARY

CHAIRMAN

DATE

BORD SLÁINTE AN OIR-DHEISCIRT

Ceannárus
Cill Channaigh

7 Meitheamh, 2001

COMMUNITY CARE COMMITTEE

Déardaoin, 14 Meitheamh, 2001 - 2:30 i.n.

CLÁR

1. Minutes and Matters Arising *
2. Finance
3. Review of Service Plan
4. Back to School Clothing & Footwear Scheme CS 298*
5. "The Interface between General Practitioners and the Hospitals" (Dr Stacey)
6. Medical Cards Over 70s
7. Update on Meningo 'C' Campaign
8. Evaluation Flu Campaign 2000 / 2001
9. Report on G.M.S. Appointment
10. Submission by South Eastern Health Board to County & City Development Boards
11. Ambulance Training Board Annual Report 2000

* copy enclosed

Board Meeting 4:15 p.m.

BÓRD SLÁINTE AN OIR-DHEISCIRT COMMUNITY CARE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Community Care Committee Meeting held at Ceannárus, Kilkenny, on Thursday, 10th May 2001.

Present: Mr M. Fitzpatrick (Chairman), Ms D. Bolger, Mr J. Fahy, Dr. A. N. deSouza, Mr P. Delaney, Ms K. O'Leary, Mr M. Deering, Dr. F. Gallagher, Dr. Stacey and Dr S. McCarthy,

In Attendance: Mr Tom Beegan, Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Ms Ann Boyle, Secretary.

348.1 Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of the Community Care Committee meeting held on the 12th April 2001 were adopted on the proposal of Ms. D. Bolger and seconded by Mr. Deering.

Under item 347.3 the Committee members discussed in detail the anomalies which exist in the current system for the granting of medical cards. Following a lengthy discussion on the matter it was proposed by Dr. Gallagher and agreed by Committee that the South Eastern Health Board should write to the Minister of Health and Children to review the guidelines for the eligibility for medical cards as a matter of urgency.

Under paragraph 347.5 it is noted that the G.P. from Borris resigning from the GMS is Dr. Blair Murray not Dr. Blair Murphy as stated in the minutes.

348.2 Finance

The Committee noted the contents of finance report F292 outlining the Board's financial position at the end of March, 2001. It was noted that the excess of expenditure over budget, following adjustment for anticipated additional allocation at the 31st March 2001 was £618,000. This represents an increase of £142,000 over corresponding figures at the 28th February 2001. Among the factors which have contributed to this increase were as follows:

1. Increased medical pay costs in acute hospitals arising from additional posts and increase in level of medical overtime.
2. Increase in hospital nursing overtime expenditure due to recruitment difficulties and necessity to employ special nurses.

3. Increase in non-pay costs in acute hospitals under the headings of medicine, medical appliances, pathology, energy, training and recruitment.
4. Increase in nursing home costs.
5. Increase in non-pay costs in central services, in particular due to additional advertising / training costs and also to increase in costs of employer / public liability insurance.

The committee members were concerned to note that there seems to be an apparent under spending in the Community Care services and requested that every effort be made to ensure that this funding be used to keep people within the Community.

348.3 Regional Treatment & Rehabilitation Working Group Recommendations CS 297

John Casey, Drugs Education Officer joined the Committee for the discussion of this item and gave a presentation to the Committee on the recommendations contained in the South Eastern Health Board Regional Treatment & Rehabilitation Working Group report. Among the recommendations included in the report are:

1. the establishment of Substance Misuse Unit, headed by Team Leader / Manager including a number of professional staff including drug project workers, drug education officers, social worker, counsellor, and psychiatrist.
2. That a regional counselling service be developed which would be community based and easily accessible, particularly to under 18 year olds. These services would facilitate self-referral / specialist assessment and intervention.
3. That out reach services are developed to target at risk community members who may not access treatment for various reasons.
4. That a regional help line should be set up to provide information, support and guidance.
5. That one-stop shops should be established to where different services are represented and young people feel relaxed about making enquiries. They should involve multi agency partnership.
6. Uniform client assessment should be developed for all drug services in the South East. Health Board services should support clients before and after treatment in voluntary residential treatment programmes.
7. All hospitals in the South East region should have clear protocols for the management and referral of drug mis-users admitted to hospital.
8. The key worker role should be established within the treatment model. The Board should identify from local needs assessment the likely demand for specialist inpatient programmes and contract for the level in advance so that such services can undertake proper planning and evaluation to meet the expected level of need. Access to service should be through a designated key worker.

The Committee were pleased to note that the new National Drug Strategy launched today endorses the approach of the South Eastern Health Board. On the proposal of Mrs Bolger, seconded by Mrs O'Leary the Committee agreed to adopt the recommendations contained in the report. The Committee members complimented all those involved in the provision of this comprehensive and important service.

348.4 Review of Service Plan

Due to time constraints it was agreed that this item be deferred to the next Committee meeting.

348.5 Post Mortem Service Update

The Deputy Chief Executive Officer advised the Committee that meetings have been held with the Coroners and the Gardaí and ongoing discussions are also taking place with the Unions. It is expected to have a report on this matter for the June meeting.

348.6 Annual Report of the Ombudsman CS 296

The Committee noted the contents of report no. CS 296 outlining details of the annual report of the Ombudsman for the year 2000.

348.7 Ambulance Training Board Annual Report 2000

Because of time constraints it was agreed to defer this item to the next committee meeting.

348.8 Library Services to Health Workers in the Community

Dr Stacey had requested that this item be included on the agenda for discussion.

As a frequent user of the South Eastern Health Board library services Dr Stacey had requested that access to the service should be broadened to allow more health care workers avail of these facilities. The Deputy Chief Executive Officer advised that the immediate priority for the development of the library service is to improve electronic access. This involves transferring information from the current paper based system and making it available to users through a computerised catalogue. When this new virtual library is established the service can without much additional work be extended to any user in the Board's area. This would be of particular benefit to Community Care staff and could also be of use to GPs. The Board is also looking at other means of broadening access to its library facilities, however it should be noted that this may be dependant on additional staffing and resources.

348.9 Endocrinology and Radiotherapy Services

The Deputy Chief Executive Officer advised the Committee that no further progress has been made on the provision of these services at present.

Chairman

Secretary

Date

Back to School Clothing & Footwear Scheme

The Minister for Social Welfare has announced that the Back to School Clothing & Footwear Scheme will operate from 1st June 2001 to 30th September 2001 inclusive. This scheme is operated under the aegis of the Supplementary Welfare Allowance Scheme which the Health Boards administer through the Community Welfare Departments under the Social Welfare (Consolidation) Act 1993.

The purpose of the scheme is to assist **eligible** categories with the cost of school clothing and footwear. The general conditions of eligibility will be as in 2000. Those who are eligible, subject to their satisfying the income limits and other qualifying conditions, include dependant children whose parents or guardians are recipients of:

Supplementary Welfare Allowance,
Social Welfare Benefits,
Social Welfare Assistance,
Disability Allowance (formerly DPMA)
Disabled Persons Rehabilitative Allowance
Infectious Diseases Maintenance Allowance
Family Income Supplement

The rates of allowance to be paid under this year's scheme remain at last year's level. The allowance should only be paid to applicants who satisfy all the conditions of entitlements and reduced or pro-rata payments should not be paid under any circumstances. Special conditions apply to approved employment scheme participants, back to education participants, youthreach and job initiative scheme participants, foster children, orphans and trade disputes. For all other applicants the conditions of entitlement are that:

- (a) The allowance should only be paid in respect of children born on or between the following dates:
- (i) 2nd October 1989 and 1st October 1999 (i.e. aged 2 to 11 by 1st Oct.2001)
Rate Payable £63
 - (ii) 2nd October 1983 and 1st October 1989 (i.e. aged 12 to 17 by 1st Oct 2001)
Rate Payable £78
 - (iii) 2nd October 1978 and 1st October 1983 (i.e. aged 18 to 22 by 1st Oct 2001)
Rate Payable £78

And

- (b) A child dependant allowance must be paid to the applicant in respect of the child.

And

(c) The applicant must be in receipt of a qualifying payment.

And

(d) The assessable limit for the household must be within the agreed limits.

These allowances should only be paid to applicants who satisfy **all** the conditions set out in this circular. Pro-rata or reduced rate payments should not be made in any circumstances.

Details in respect of the 2000 payments made under this scheme are set out below.

No. Payments	Carlow / Kilkenny		Waterford		Wexford		Sth. Tipperary		Total	
	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999
Pre-School	516	530	541	494	665	665	363	378	2,085	2,067
Up to age 11	2,308	2,588	1,616	2,037	3,015	3,289	1,799	2,066	8,738	9,980
12 yrs - 17 yrs	1,997	2,257	1,460	1,717	2,513	2,691	1,557	1,765	7,527	8,430
18 yrs - 20 yrs	263	222	194	144	329	413	292	312	1,078	1,091
Total	5,084	5,597	3,811	4,392	6,522	7,058	4,011	4,521	19,428	21,568
2000 Value -	£354,192		£264,825		£451,956		£280,428		£1,351,401	
1999 Value	£277,856		£216,642		£349,764		£225,558		£1,068,820	
% Difference	27.47%		22.24%		29.22%		24.33%		26.44%	

5th June 2001

BORD SLÁINTE AN OIR DHEISCIRT

**Ceannárus,
Cill Chainnigh
7^ú Meitheamh 2001**

GENERAL HOSPITALS COMMITTEE

Déardaoin, 14^ú Meitheamh 2001, 2.30 i.n.

C L Á R

1. Minutes *
2. Finance
3. Submission by South Eastern Health Board to the City/County Development Boards*
4. Treatment Abroad
5. Comhairle na nOspideal Report on Consultant Staffing @ 01.01.2001
6. Report of the Forum on Medical Manpower and the Report of the National Joint Steering Group on the Working Hours of Non Consultant Hospital Doctors.
7. Reports from Hospital Visiting Committees
 - District Hospital Castlecomer
 - St. Joseph's Hospital, Clonmel
 - St. Brigid's Hospital, Carrick-on-Suir
 - Kilcreene Regional Orthopaedic Hospital
 - St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny
 - District Hospital, Gorey
 - Wexford General Hospital

* Copy enclosed.

Board Meeting at 4.15 p.m.

BÓRD SLÁINTE AN OIR-DHEISCIRT**GENERAL HOSPITALS COMMITTEE**

Minutes of General Hospitals Committee Meeting held at Ceannárus, Kilkenny on Thursday 10th May 2001.

Present: Mr. G. Byrne (Chairman), Mr. T. Ambrose, Mr. S. Ryan, Ms. A. Blackmore, Dr. D. Ormonde, Mr. T. Maher, Ms. J. Johnson and Dr. F. Walker.

Apology: Dr. J. Gallagher and Ms. A. Gee

In attendance: Mr. P. Finnegan, Regional Manager and Mr. Séamus O'Doherty, Secretary.

352.1 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 12.04.2001 were agreed on the proposal of Dr. Ormonde and seconded by Mr. Ryan.

Matters Arising

- Under 351.1 Ms. Johnson again emphasised the value of the Radiotherapy Service and asked about the application to provide it in the South East. The Regional Manager advised that the National Expert Group on which the SEHB is represented by Mr. Watson, Consultant Surgeon at WRH, has not yet reported to the Minister. The SEHB position remains as outlined in the Board's Cancer Plan.
- Mr. Ambrose sought an update on the C.T. Scanner service in South Tipperary and was advised by the Regional Manager that while a significant sum had been raised locally the SEHB contribution has yet to be agreed. A starting date for the service is not yet known.
- Mr. Maher was advised that the Department of Health and Children has agreed to fund the cost of the completion and fitting out of the second and third floor above the Coronary Care Unit at St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny. The finance is being provided under the NDP and the extra 28 beds are expected to be available by July approx. The benefits which will follow for in-patients were noted.
- In reply to general concerns about the need for a third Obstetrician/ Gynaecologist Consultant post in Wexford, South Tipperary and Kilkenny hospitals, the Regional Manager advised that following discussions with the region's Consultants the SEHB made a submission to the Department of Health and Children in June 2000 and raised the matter on several occasions since then. As there has not been a reply to date, the committee requested that the SEHB should write again to the Department of Health and Children seeking an immediate response.
- Regarding the difficulty in recruiting temporary Consultants in the A & E Service, the Regional Manager indicated that the joint Comhairle na nOspideal, Department of Health and Children group has begun its review of the service. The SEHB is considering whether to re-advertise the temporary positions in the short term.

- Dr. Ormonde emphasised the importance of investment in facilities and services for older people, with particular reference to the need for a second Consultant Physician in Geriatric Medicine. The Regional Manager noted that this has been identified as a top priority for Waterford Health Services for 2002.

352.2 Finance

The Report F292 which had been circulated was discussed at length by the Committee.

The Regional Manager explained the reasons for overspending in some areas and noted that some funding had not been provided yet by the Department of Health and Children for posts which have been filled.

Areas of concern in non-pay were also noted and the Board's progress with the Department of Health and Children was acknowledged.

It is expected that funding and budget will level out in the coming months.

352.3 Euro Presentation

Ms. Margaret Gertberg SEHB Euro Training Officer joined the meeting and updated the committee on the background, progress made and next steps for the SEHB. All of the deadlines were noted. The Chairman thanked Ms. Gertberg for her impressive presentation.

352.4 Freedom of Information Report 2000

The SEHB report in respect of 2000 was circulated for Committee members information. As the report was very detailed, it was agreed that any questions which arise can be raised at the next meeting. The committee thanked the Regional Manager and his staff for keeping them advised on the issue.

352.5 Service Plan Review (GS 160)

- The report which had been circulated was reviewed in the context of in-patient and Day Care Workloads. The in-patient bed days exceeded projections by 1.05% for the Jan-Mar 2001 quarter while Day Cases were up by 2.59%.
- Various Services were reviewed with reference to the risk level and medical admission and regret was expressed at how some specialities had been affected by the ongoing phenomenon.
- Dr. Ormonde expressed his congratulations to all hospital staff for their high productivity level in the first quarter of the year.
- It was agreed that a detailed analysis of Day Cases by hospital would be included in the next review – the half year to June 30th.

352.6 Treatment Abroad

This issue was deferred to the next meeting, when a report will be provided for the Committee.

352.7 Charges for Ambulance Services

Ambulance charges are levied on the following categories of patients:

- Patients who have private medical insurance.
- Patients who use a private ward in a hospital.
- Patients who request a private ambulance, and

- Patients who are involved in road traffic accidents (if they fail to get compensation in a claim then their eligibility is taken into account. Medical card holders are not charged for use of the ambulance service).

As the last revision of charges was three years ago, it was proposed by Mr. Maher, seconded by Dr. Ormonde and agreed that the following would apply for 1/6/2001.

	Existing Charge	Proposed Charge
Cost Per Mile	£1.75	£1.90
Minimum Charge	£37.00	£47.00
Maximum Charge	Unlimited	Unlimited

Last year the SEHB realised income of £175,000 from this source

352.8 **Reports from Hospital Visiting Committees**

The Reports from the Visiting Committees to St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny, the Regional Orthopaedic Hospital, Kilcreene and District Hospital, Gorey respectively on 03.05.2001 were noted by the Committee.

352.9 **Any other business**

With the Chairman's approval Ms. Johnson circulated a paper about the Physiotherapy staffing level in Waterford across all services. Having spoken about the unsatisfactory staff : patient ratio she requested that the SEHB would undertake an evaluation of the Physiotherapy staffing levels through the region.

Dr. Walker supported the request and asked that other para medical grades especially Occupational Therapy would also be reviewed.

Chairman

Date _____

Secretary

Report of the Chief Executive Officer to June, 2001 Board Meeting

336.1 **New Appointments:** Dr. Niall P. Gormley, 13 Heatherfield, Mulgannon, Wexford
Qualifications: MB, BCh, BAO 1989 T.C.D., MRCPI 1991; MRCPsych
Dr. Gormley commenced as Consultant Psychiatrist with a special interest in the psychiatry of old age, Wexford Mental Health Services on 1st May 2001.

Ms. Catherine Neary, Jerpoint Church, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny
Qualifications: Diploma in Human & Social Studies 1990, Maynooth College; I.P.M. Certificate in Personnel Practice 1991, I.P.D; Diploma in Management & Industrial Relations 1995, N.C.I.R.; New Management Development Programme, 1995 I.P.A.; BA Public Management (Health Stream) 1999, I.P.A.
Ms. Neary commenced as Regional Recruitment & Training Manager, Functional Officer, Head Office on Monday, 30th April 2001.

Mr. John A. Redmond, "Forthvale", Coolree, Wexford
Qualifications: Diploma in Health Inspection, 1974, D.O.H.; Certificate in Public Administration 1980, I.P.A.; Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) 1992, University of London
Mr. Redmond commenced duty as Senior Environmental Health Officer, Wexford Community Care on Monday, 14th May 2001.

Ms. Veronica Meaney, Figlash, Ballyneal, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary
Qualifications: B.Sc. Environmental Health 1988, Trinity College; Diploma in Safety, Health and Welfare at Work 1993, University of Limerick
Ms. Meaney commenced duty as Senior Environmental Health Officer in South Tipperary Community Care on Tuesday, 1st May 2001.

336.2 **Retirements:** No senior retirements at this time.

336.3 **Aut Even Hospital:** Members will be aware that Aut Even Private Hospital has recently been offered for sale as a going concern.

At present I am having this facility examined with a view to assessing its suitability to address capacity deficits that exist at St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny and possibly within the region. Subject to a satisfactory outcome to business, legal and technical assessment's currently being carried out and sanctions from the Department of Health & Children I am seeking contingents approval from this Board to make a bid for this facility. Members will be kept fully informed as developments emerge.

336.4 **Review of Management Structures:** The Corporate Strategy for this Board, which was launched in 1997, sets out the values, principles and mission statement which guides the delivery of services provided within the Boards area.

Ensuring that our Management structures, processes and I.T. system development are robust enough to deliver on this strategy, requires regular and formal review.

To this end, I have engaged Management Consultants to carry out such a review and advise me of the appropriate action that maybe necessary to take to ensure that we are adequately prepared to meet the challenge of delivering a modern quality driven Health Service.

336.5 **South Eastern Health Board Partnership Committee:** Under the terms of the Programme for Prosperity and Fairness specific emphasis is made in relation to the creation of a partnership approach both at the overall public service level and within individual organisations. The objective is to join ownership by management, unions and staff of the entire process. To this end, an adversarial approach to change must be replaced by an open, co-operative process based on effective consultation and participation by all concerned.

Within the South Eastern Health Board a Partnership Committee has been established and is jointly chaired by Mr. David Clancy, SIPTU and myself.

In general terms the role and purpose of this Committee is to provide a forum which provides an overall focus for the partnership process within this Board and facilitates it development and implementation. This Committee was formed in February of this year and held it's first official meeting in March, 2001. There are sixteen members of the Partnership Committee made up of seven Management representatives and nine Trade Union representatives.

The key principles under pinning the Partnership approach are:

- ◆ Quality in the delivery of Health and Social Services.
- ◆ Opportunities for staff to be involved in meeting organisation challenges, the development of strategies and service planning.
- ◆ Skills development and training to improve services in line with the principles of high trust, high skill and a high quality workplace.
- ◆ Co-operation with change including new format of work organisation and or service delivery including effective use of new technology.
- ◆ Equal opportunities including reconciling the responsibilities of the workplace with family life.
- ◆ Improving communications and consultation processes.
- ◆ Effective management of people at all levels and performance review.

The South Eastern Health Board Partnership Committee have identified a number of potential partnership projects and through a system of sub group committees are now in the process of drawing up Terms of Reference and action plans to progress these projects. Projects under consideration are strengthening of patient/client satisfaction within the service and the establishment of measurable standards of patient

satisfaction, for the development and implementation of the Corporate Strategy and the evaluation of the role of care attendants at Waterford Regional Hospital. Staff information sessions are currently being organised to advise staff on the Partnership process, to build competence and confidence in the Partnership approach and to identify new projects and initiatives that can be addressed in the future.

- 336.6 **Submission to the National Health Strategy:** The submission from the South Eastern Health Board to the National Health Strategy Forum was forwarded to Mr. Michael Kelly, Secretary General, Department of Health & Children on the 17th May, 2001.

The submission is set out in three parts as follows:

Part I contains the collective comments/views of the Board members as expressed at the April Board meeting.

Part II contains comments/views received from individual employees, either as direct submissions or as part of facilitated discussion groups held throughout the Board's region, and

Part III contains some individual submissions which by virtue of their specific focus or comprehensive nature warranted individual inclusion.

A copy of the submission has been forwarded to all members for their information.

- 336.7 **Submission to the County/City Development Boards:** A submission from the South Eastern Health Board has been forwarded to the Directors of the County/City Development Boards which sets out, from a regional perspective the key priority areas which the South Eastern Health Board considers conjoint action with other agencies at local, regional and national level could occur. It is hoped this submission paper will assist the County/City Development Boards with their work.

**Tom Beegan,
Acting Chief Executive Officer.**

7th June, 2001.