

Minutes of Monthly Board Meeting held in Lecture Room, St. Columcilles
Hospital, Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin on Thursday 12th Sept 2002 at 6.00 p.m.

In the Chair

Cllr. Andrew Doyle

Present

Dr. Mick Molloy

Cllr. Pat Doran

Cllr. Maria Corrigan

Dr. John Fennell

Cllr. Olivia Mitchell T.D.

Ald. Joe Doyle

Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne

Dr. Bernard Murphy

Cllr. Tony Fox

Cllr. Laurence Butler

Apologies

Dr. Ray Hawkins

Cllr. Dr. Bill O'Connell

Mr. John Dolan

Mr. Michael Murphy

Mr. Gerry McGuire

Ms. Noeleen Harvey

Ms. Maria Hoban

Officers in attendance

Mr. Michael Lyons, Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Martin Gallagher, Assistant Chief Executive Officer

Ms. Cate Hartigan, Assistant Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Brian Redahan, Assistant Chief Executive Officer

Mr. Pearse Costello, Director of Human Resources

Mr. Gavin Maguire, Director of Finance

Mr. Alex Connolly, Director of Communications

Mr. John Davis, Board Secretary

Opening Prayer

[1] Chairman's Business

The Chairman joined with the members in extending a vote of sympathy with the relatives of the list of deceased circulated

The Chairman proceeded to advise the members of the following items:

- His attendance at the official opening of the new service for persons with an Intellectual Disability at Hawthorn House, Newcastle, Co. Wicklow on Tuesday, 3rd September.
- Community Nursing Units for Older people announcement by the Minister for Health & Children, Mr. Michael Martin, T.D.
- Schedule of visits September/October 2002
- Meetings of the Development Review Committee, St. Columcilles Hospital, Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin will be held on 1st Tuesday of each month in sun room, St. Columcilles Hospital.

These further points were noted:

- Members welcomed the opening of the new service for Persons with Intellectual Disability at Newcastle, Co. Wicklow and acknowledged the work done in this area by the Voluntary Sector in partnership with the Board.
- Members welcomed the plans for development of community nursing homes in the region and looked forward to working with the new Public Private Partnership Unit in the Department of Health & Children.

Report was noted.

[2] Minutes

(a) *Confirmation of Minutes*

Minutes of monthly Meeting of Board held on 13th June 2002 having been circulated were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne and seconded by Cllr. Laurence Butler.

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 11th July 2002 having been circulated were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Laurence Butler and seconded by Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne.

Minutes of Special Board Meeting held on 11th July 2002 having been circulated were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Tony Fox and seconded by Ald. Joe Doyle.

Minutes of Special Board Meeting held on 18th July 2002 having been circulated were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Pat Doran and seconded by Cllr. Tony Fox.

(b) Matters Arising

No Matters Arising

[3] Questions to Chief Executive Officer

Councillor Jane Dillon Byrne

Question 1.

“What plans are now in place for the implementation of the pilot projects re: Young People and Alcohol abuse in: -

- (a) Carnew
- (b) Dun Laoghaire Area

due to be reported to this Board in June 2002”

Reply:

The Board has included in the 2002 Provider Plan Pilot Alcohol Information, Education and Services Proposal for projects in Dun Laoghaire and Carnew.

The proposal is based on Recommendation Number 5 in the Strategic Task Force on Alcohol Interim Report, published in May this year. The proposal will encompass a multi-sectoral approach to community mobilization and will include:

- Health Promotion Personnel
- Drug Education Officers
- Local Schools
- Youth work Agencies and Groups
- Local Gardai
- Interested individuals within the community

An initial figure of €10,000 will be made available for the proposal which will commence in the Autumn.

Question 2.

“Has the East Coast Area Health Board considered permitting certain Child Care Agencies the authority to seek, and source foster places for children in need of such a service?”

Reply:

Draft National standards on Foster Care are currently being considered and the final standards will be used to benchmark all Foster Care provision. The ECAHB will consider the use of other agencies in this field in the context of the National Standards, the National Foster Care Strategy and our service developments, over the next two years.

The ECAHB participate in a Regional Group on Foster Care and has received funding to develop our Foster care Strategy and our service developments, over the next two years.

The ECAHB has received information from two English companies, which intend to establish private Foster Care Companies in Ireland. The ECAHB has not had any discussions with these companies. There are three main areas of concern with regard to private provision of Foster Care a) quality, b) accountability, c) cost. Again, any discussions would be undertaken in the context of the National Strategy and standards.

Question 3

“Could the Chief Executive Officer inform the members of this Board where the cuts in employment of staff members in each of the Care Areas will manifest themselves, in the East Coast Area Health Board and please give specific details”

Reply:

In the light of the Government decision and correspondence from the Department of Health and Children and the Eastern Regional Health Authority relating to the achievement of payroll

savings from 1st September – 31st December 2002, the East Coast Area Health Board has been advised that it is to achieve cost savings of €364,405 this year. The Board has estimated this equates to 27 posts and we are currently in the process of identifying the posts involved.

On foot of this exercise, the Board will minimise any impact on service provision and will review and revise the posts in question, on the basis of priority need.

The CEO updated members in relation to proposals in respect of question as follows:

Community Action on Alcohol Project.

As outlined in our 2002 Provider Plan, an amount of €10,000 has been made available to initiate pilot Community Action on Alcohol Projects in Dun Laoghaire and Carnew. The projects are based on best practice models described in the Department of Health and Childrens Strategic Task Force on Alcohol Interim Report published in May of this year.

The overall aim of the project is to strengthen community action on alcohol awareness through education and information initiatives. In both Dun Laoghaire and Carnew a multi-sectoral group will be established to identify the:

- (i) Current issues relating to alcohol misuse
- (ii) Current responses to alcohol misuse
- (iii) Identify the gaps in alcohol services
- (iv) Produce a plan outlining how the gaps in services can be addressed.

Part of this process will be done using a Community Matrix model involving a wide variety of individuals, agencies and sectors. The first stage of the process will be to meet with a small number of interested local representatives to agree the details of the project. These steering groups will meet before the end of September.

[4] Chief Executive Officers Report

The Chief Executive Officer's Report (copy appended to Official Minutes) was circulated. The Report dealt with the following items:

- Staff Appointments
- Acute Hospitals
 - Joint Department of Emergency Medicine
- Appointment of Consultant Urologist to St. Columcilles Hospital
- Capital Works at St. Columcilles Hospital
- Primary Care
- Annual Report 2001 - Publication

There followed a debate on the Chief Executives Report to which the following members contributed; Cllr. Olivia Mitchell T.D. Dr. John Fennell, Cllr. Maria Corrigan, Ald. Joe Doyle, Cllr. Laurence Butler, Dr. Mick Molloy, Cllr. Andrew Doyle and to which the Chief Executive Officer responded. The following points were noted.

- Members welcomed Dr. Brian Redahan to the post of Assistant Chief Executive Officer and congratulated Mr. David Walsh to the post of General Manager, Community Care Area 2.
- Members welcomed the improved Accident & Emergency infrastructure at each of the three hospitals in the Region and welcomed the development of the out of hours G.P. service due to commence shortly in Dun Laoghaire, based at St. Michaels Hospital.
- Members welcomed the sanction from the Department of Health & Children to proceed with the upgrading capital works of St. Columcilles Hospital at a cost of €6.35m.

Members noted the appointment of Consultant Urologist at St. Columcilles Hospital and noted that the Board will now be agreeing a work programme with him.

In conclusion, the Chief Executive Officer agreed to provide an update report on Paediatric Services and Dual Diagnostic Services in the Region.

Thanked the members of the Hospital Development Committee and the Project Team for their work in securing the approval for the Capital Works at St. Columcilles Hospital. In particular, we acknowledged the role of Cllr. Laurence Butler as Chairman of the Development committee.

Report was noted and agreed.

[5] Report of Standing Committees

Progress Reports of the following Committees, having been circulated, were noted and agreed on the proposal of Cllr. Tony Fox and seconded by Cllr. Laurence Butler.

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| • Protocol and Procedure Committee | 19 th June 2002 |
| • Acute Services and Primary Care Committee | 20 th June 2002 |
| • Continuing Care Committee | 27 th June 2002 |
| • Finance and Property Committee | 02 nd July 2002 |
| • Child Care Advisory Committee | 04 th July 2002 |
| • Acute Services and Primary Care Committee | 23 rd July 2002 |
| • Continuing Care Committee | 25 th July 2002 |
| • Finance and Property Committee | 03 rd Sept. 2002 |

Arising from the Report the following items were noted:

- Draft Proposal regarding members appointed to the Board under Section 16(vii) of the Health (Eastern Regional Health Authority) Act 1999, endorsed by the Protocol and Procedures Committee, was adapted on proposal of Cllr. Pat Doran and seconded by Cllr. Tony Fox.
- Draft Proposal regarding establishment of Register of Members interests under the Provision of the ethics in Public Office Act 1995 endorsed by the Protocol and Procedures Committee was adapted on proposal of Cllr. Laurence Byrne and seconded by Cllr. Andrew Doyle.

Finance and Property Report

The Chief Executive Officer updated Members on progress made since last Meeting in July including Meeting with the Eastern Regional Health Authority, including:

- Provider Plan 2002 update
- Service Plan 2002
- Financial Position – outlined by Director of Finance.

The following points were noted:

- The adjustment to employment levels following Government decision of 6th August 2002 to amount to €362,405 for 2002
- These targets will amount to appropriating 27 posts, which will be left vacant from within the Compliment of Planned Development Posts.
- Further Meetings are planned with the ERHA to review Historic under-funding costs and Members will continue to be kept informed of Developments as they occur.
- On the proposal of Cllr. Andrew Doyle and seconded by Cllr. Tony Fox, the report of the Finance and Property Committee was noted and agreed.
- Proposals agreed by the Finance and Property Committee at it's Meeting of 2nd July 2002, to purchase lease of property at 24 Lower Baggot St, Dublin 2, was approved by proposal of Cllr. Tony Fox and seconded by Cllr. Laurence Butler.

- Internet Banking Service

- The Director of Finance reported to the Board that: -
 - (i) It was proposed that Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. (“the bank”) (as the Board’s bankers in Ireland), be requested to provide a cash management facility to the Board whereby the Board could conduct and control certain of it’s accounts and banking requirements with the Bank and the Bank’s subsidiaries and associated companies through the Bank’s iBusiness Banking service on the Internet or by any other such means as may be authorized by the Bank (the ‘Services’).
 - (ii) the Bank has agreed to provide the Services to the Board on such terms as have been agreed between the Bank and the Board which are set out in the Agreement, as defined in the iBusiness Banking Terms and Conditions, a copy of which was presented to the Meeting, conditional on the proper completion and submission to

the Bank of the Application Documents for and on behalf of the Board.

On the proposal of Cllr. Olivia Mitchell, T.D. and seconded by Cllr. Pat Doran, the proposal was adapted.

[6] Report on Catering Services.

Deferred to October Meeting.

[7] Notice of Motions

No Motions tabled.

[8] Correspondence

No Correspondence

Meeting concluded at 8.00 p.m.

Correct:

**MICHAEL LYONS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Signed:

**CLLR ANDREW DOYLE
CHAIRMAN**

DATE