

These are Draft Minutes as the Board was subsequently dissolved and therefore it was not possible to have them approved/adopted.

SOUTH WESTERN AREA HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the South Western Area Health Board held in the Board Room, Oak House, Millennium Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, on Tuesday, 11th May, 2004, at 2.00 p.m.

Present

Cllr. C. Byrne
Cllr. T. Cullen
Ms. M. Hoban
Cllr. F. O'Loughlin
Cllr. T. Ridge

Cllr. E. Byrne
Ms. A. Harris
Dr. B. Murphy
Cllr. J. Reilly

Apologies

Dr. S. Barry
Ms. N. Harvey

Dr. K. Harkin
Ald. M. Mooney

In the Chair

Cllr. T. Ridge

Officers in Attendance

Mr. P. Donnelly, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. R. Mitchell, Assistant Chief Executive
Ms. R. Buckley, Assistant Chief Executive
Ms. M. Clear, Director of Services for Children & Families
Mr. G. O'Neill, A/Director for Mental Health & Addiction Services
Ms. C. Bergin, Senior Manager, Operations
Mr. R. Healy, Board Secretary
Ms. P. Dempsey, Administrative Support, C.E.O.'s Office
Ms. A. Farrell, Administrative Support, C.E.O.'s Office

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CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

Cllr. Therese Ridge advised members that she would be chairing the meeting as Ald. M. Mooney was not available to attend.

She proceeded to advise members of the following:-

1. *Primary, Acute & Community Services Standing Committee*

I would like to inform members that a reconvened meeting of the Primary, Acute & Community Services Standing Committee has been arranged for Thursday next, 13th May, at 10.30 a.m. (please note the time). The meeting will be held here in the Board Room, Oak House, Millennium Park.

2. *Brú Chaoimhín*

I wish to remind members that the Board will celebrate the 200th Anniversary of Brú Chaoimhín on Friday, 14th May, 2004, in the hospital at 3.00 p.m. along with the official opening of the new Day Care Unit on site.

Members will already have received an invitation in this regard.

3. *Special Gathering of the Board*

As mentioned previously, I now wish to confirm that we will hold a special gathering of members of this Board on Tuesday, 15th June, 2004, at 3.00 p.m. here in Oak House.

Details will be confirmed to members in writing in due course.

The C.E.O. then advised members briefly of the proposed format for the above.

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MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON 6TH APRIL, 2004.

The minutes of the proceedings of the Board Meeting held on 6th April, 2004, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr. J. Reilly, seconded by Dr. B. Murphy.

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QUESTIONS TO THE C.E.O.

On a proposal by Ms. A. Harris, seconded by Cllr. J. Reilly, it was agreed to answer the question which had been lodged:-

1. *Dr. Siobhán Barry*

“Re: Mental Health Services of the SWAHB

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Could the C.E.O.

- Detail the progress it has made in relation to the delivery of Mental Health Services within its area since the inception of the Area Health Board in 2000?
- Specify the obstacles that have impeded its targets in implementing the Plan for Mental Health Services brought to the Board in December 2001?

Reply:

- ***“Detail the progress it (SWAHB) has made in relation to the delivery of Mental Health Services within its area since the inception of the Area Health Board in 2000?”***

The South Western Area Health Board has made considerable progress in the delivery of mental health services within its catchment area since its inception in 2000. There has also been limited provision of development and capital funding, however, we have managed to improve and replace a number of facilities by utilising existing resources and through a programme of select property disposals. Proactive engagement by enthusiastic, professional staff has led to the emergence of new and innovative service models which are continuously monitored and assessed.

This has been achieved despite the inequity of national funding and historic base budget deficits.

The mental health service is constantly re-evaluating its service provision to meet the changing population needs and cultural diversity. We acknowledge our dependence on other boards to provide for key elements of service provision such as secure care and some homeless services.

The following list outlines the South Western Area Health Board achievements in mental health since the Board’s inception in March 2000:

CAPITAL PROJECTS

The South Western Area Health Board inherited from the former Eastern Health Board some mental health facilities that required replacement/refurbishment. A sustained programme of acquisitions and re-provision was undertaken to improve the infrastructure.

St Loman’s Campus

The proposal to dispose of part of the St. Loman’s site was passed by the Eastern Regional Health Authority in January 2004. Tenders have been received and a recommendation will go before the board of the E.R.H.A. later this month. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this land will be re-invested in the St. Loman’s service. Planning is currently underway for the re-development on this site and the community facility at Ballyfermot.

Irishtown

The replacement of Irishtown Day Centre (operated by the East Coast Area Health Board on behalf of the South Western Area Health Board) was an early priority. A new facility

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was developed in co-operation with the local community and the Dublin Docklands Development Authority.

Tallaght

Sheaf House includes the Day Hospital for Psychiatry of Later Life, Sector HQ, Day Hospital and Day Centre for the Tallaght Mental Health Service. Other board services are also provided from this facility including Rehabilitation Training and Audiology Services.

Clonree House, Newbridge

It is planned to use this facility as a rehabilitation hostel for the Kildare Service. Funding is being sought to refurbish this building.

Teach Bán, Newcastle Co Dublin

This large house has recently been refurbished. It is planned to use this facility as a hostel, subject to employment ceiling, but in the meantime it is being used as a day facility for rehabilitation clients.

Kilcock

The proceeds from the disposal of Auburn House in Kilcock have provided for the provision of a new Day Hospital for the North West Kildare Sector at Whitestown, Kilcock. This facility is expected to be completed May 2004.

Advance Building, St. Lomans

Replacing Unit F as the Rehabilitation in-patient setting at St. Lomans, opened in December 2002.

St. Martha's, Kilmainham

Previously a high support hostel, this facility at Kilmainham is now the Day Hospital for the Camac (Inner City) sector of the Dublin South City Service.

Clondalkin Day Centre

A new day centre for Clondalkin at St. Brigid's has replaced the Scout Den as the local mental health day centre serving Clondalkin.

Child & Adolescent Psychiatry HQ

The headquarters for this service has been re-located from St. Lomans campus to a refurbished facility at Bridge House, Cherry Orchard.

Monastery Road, Clondalkin

A house at Monastery Road, Clondalkin is currently being refurbished for use as a sector HQ for the Clondalkin Child & Adolescent Psychiatric Team.

Jonathan Swift Unit, St James's Hospital

The South Western Area Health Board has funded an extensive refurbishment programme for the Dublin South City in-patient unit at St James's Hospital.

Lakeview Unit, Naas

This unit has been extensively redecorated and the Rooftop Garden is currently being remodelled for improved patient access.

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Many other minor capital works, including improved Health & Safety, Fire Safety, Energy Efficiency and HACCP projects have been advanced by the three Area Managers.

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MENTAL HEALTH TEAMS

New Mental Health Teams were established in the following areas:-

Rehabilitation Team

Established at St. Lomans, which includes a small outreach component.

Drimnagh

This team will facilitate the transfer of 30,000 clients from the Dublin West/South West Mental Health Service to the Dublin South City Service. The entire catchment transfer will be complete by November 2004.

North Kildare

Serving the North East Kildare sector in the Celbridge sector. A pilot scheme for home care has been established and funded initially through the *National Health Service Partnership Forum*. This pilot will run for a period of 1 year. Two additional Community Mental Health Nurses have been assigned to this service.

Homeless/Coombe

A new consultant-led team commenced at the end of March. The team will comprise 2 NCHDs, 2 CMHNs and a Mental Health Social Worker. This consultant has a 4 session commitment to the Coombe Women's Hospital. Each maternity hospital in the E.R.H.A. area now has direct access to Consultant Psychiatrist and NCHD support.

Psychiatry of Later Life

The expansion of this service to include two CMHNs, Social Work and Psychology. The Day Hospital opened at Sheaf House in February 2004. The movement of patients at the Beechaven Unit at St. Lomans to an off-site facility will allow for the opening Aspen Unit at Tallaght Hospital.

MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION & SUICIDE PREVENTION

During 2001 the South Western Area Health Board appointed a Mental Health Promotion/Suicide Resource Officer. This dual role has advanced a number of well targeted programmes.

The following initiatives were provided in the area of Suicide Prevention;

- Established a multi-sectoral Suicide Prevention Steering Committee
- DUMP Project –*Dispose of Unused Medications Project*
- Training –Staff, Voluntary Partners, Media, Fellow Statutory
- Funded Bereavement Support & Training Programmes
- ‘*Don't Get Down –Get Help*’ Cinema Campaign
- Media Training –for local print and broadcast media
- Developed GP Training Package in association with ICGP
- Seminar with ICGP ‘*Suicide & Primary Care*’, September 2002

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Mental Health Promotion includes the following;

- Smoking Cessation Programmes in mental health settings
- Nutritional Assessment Tool –developed with AMiNCH, Tallaght
- Walking Programmes –for Day Centre Clients
- Aerobics for Elderly Mentally Ill –for residents at St. Lomans

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Our Board is involved in two projects undertaken by the Mental Health Commission:

- Pathways to Involuntary Admissions
- Service User Experience – involving SHB, NWHB and SWAHB.

Two comprehensive service reviews have also been undertaken in the Kildare/West Wicklow Service and the Dublin West/South West Mental Health Service. An Independent Researcher conducted both projects.

Dual Diagnosis (*Mental Health & Addiction*) – SWAHB & DCU are currently conducting this important NDST funded research

Primary Care & Mental Health –SWAHB with ICGP – Phase I published in February 2004, Phase II currently in progress.

Community Mobilisation Model – Kilcock Community Alcohol Project, October-November 2002.

ICT DEVELOPMENTS

The Eastern Regional Health Authority has allocated €165,000 for the introduction of a Mental Health IT system in Dublin West and South West. Hardware, software, networks and training are now available in each mental health facility in this area. This will allow for easy exchange of information between the Acute Unit at Tallaght, St. Lomans, Day Hospital and Clinics. Secure e-mail is currently being looked at with a view to providing same between this service and Tallaght Hospital.

FACE

The FACE Rehabilitation tool has been introduced in an electronic form in the Dublin South City Mental Health Service. Additional ICT hardware and training was provided.

Primary Care & Mental Health

This research project is now in the second and final phase. The first phase has been published and launched in March of this year.

Consultative Fora

Senior mental health staff have established a regular meeting schedule with the principal voluntary agencies active in the South Western Area Health Board. As a result of this, a formal consultative forum is currently being created. The first meeting took place in April 2004.

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Voluntary Partners & Service Level Agreements

Formal Service Level Agreements have been established with all voluntary providers in mental health for 2004.

Social Housing Initiatives

Mental health staff have been working closely with their peers from the Local Authorities and Social Housing Providers (*HAIL and Celbridge MHA*). Our Board has grant aided HAIL to provide a range of social and supported housing initiatives in the region.

Major HAIL developments in the S.W.A.H.B. include:

- Kilcronan in Clondalkin
- Russell Square, Tallaght - 22 Units
- Proposed apartment development at Tús Nua, Kildare (*in planning*)
- Proposed housing development at Ballyfermot (*in planning*)

Celbridge Mental Health Association

A site at Celbridge has been ceded to *Celbridge Mental Health Association* to develop 12 housing units (*planning application with Kildare County Council*) for mental health service users.

Staff from the Mid East Mental Health Team have established a Sector HQ at Millennium Park. While it cannot provide direct clinical services, it acts as a central base for the team members.

FORWARD PLANNING & STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

ERHA Regional Strategic Framework

Senior Clinicians, Managers and Service Users from the South Western Area Health Board have contributed to the development of the E.R.H.A.'s Regional Strategic Framework for Mental Health. Our Board has taken a lead in the advancement of two priority areas – Primary Care and Mental Health and Management Development.

South Western Area Health Board Strategy – Mental Health

The South Western Area Health Board Organisational Strategy Getting Better Together sets nine targets for our mental health services. They are outlined as: Define Spectrum of Mental Health, Assess Needs, Share Information, Wider Service Planning Process, Set Realisable Service Standards, 25,000 Population per Team, Greater Capital Investment, Identify Key Stakeholders and Promote Positive Mental Health.

Board Reports, Visits & Presentations

A series of Board Reports were presented to Standing Committee and full Board meetings, including;

- Action Plan for Mental Health Services,
- Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services
- Responding to Suicide
- S.W.A.H.B. Action Plan on Alcohol

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Advocacy Developments

A number of Peer & Self Advocacy Training Programmes have taken place. Our board is funding 3 Development Officer posts with the Irish Advocacy Network. An accredited training programme preparing nursing staff for the emergence of Peer Advocacy has been devised in association with D.C.U.

Mental Health Service Users have been directly involved in the design and evaluation of a number of new developments including:

- Extended Hours Day Hospital Project at Celbridge
- Mental Health I.T. system in Dublin West/South West
- Opening of St. Martha's Day Hospital
- D.C.U. Training Programme for nursing staff
- Review of Dublin West/South West Mental Health Service
- Development of new information materials for service users

Information Provision

In February, Minister Tim O Malley launched '*Looking Ahead*', a magazine developed for service users of our mental health services. The magazine introduces our services and offers health promoting advice on nutrition, medication use, sleep, exercise, voluntary organisations, men's health and women's health issues. The material was generated by a multidisciplinary editorial team, assisted by service users and the artwork and design was prepared by *Design Forum*, a training programme for people with mental health issues. 10,000 copies were produced and distributed throughout the South Western Area Health Board services.

A series of '*Service Brochures*' have been commissioned which describe the services offered by each local mental health service.

- ***“Specify the obstacles that have impeded its (SWAHB) targets in implementing the Plan for Mental Health Services brought to the Board in December 2001?”***

Our Board has experienced a number of factors which have acted as obstacles in the full implementation of the plan presented to the Board in December 2001.

These include:-

- The South Western Area Health Board Mental Health Services receive the lowest per capita allocation in Ireland. This had had a major limiting effect on our capacity to provide high quality, comprehensive and locally available mental health care.
- Limited capital allocation - the South Western Area Health Board has received just over €3m for capital developments since the Board was formed in March 2000. Major capital projects like the redevelopment of the St Lomans campus have had to be revisited; however, we are now confident that we can provide some excellent facilities by reinvesting the proceeds from the partial site disposal.
- Sustained population growth continues to decrease the per capita allocation for mental health services, as compared to other regions in the country. Service capacity

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is, therefore, limited. This translates into higher levels of acuity at each tier of service; community, acute in-patient and rehabilitation. This makes the working environment challenging and stressful for our mental health professionals and raises issues of retention, recruitment, supervision and training for us. All of this has to be managed within the national employment ceiling policy and approved budgets.

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RE: UPDATE ON REGIONAL CHILDCARE FRAMEWORK

The C.E.O. gave a slide presentation updating members on the Regional Childcare Framework. Areas covered in the presentation included:-

- Organisational Strategy – Objectives for Children & Family Services 2002-2007
- Staff Training & Development Initiatives – Residential Childcare & General
- Programmes/Projects currently in progress
- Goals for 2004 for the Framework

The Chairman thanked the C.E.O. for his presentation. Discussion then followed to which Ms. A. Harris, Cllr. J. Reilly, Cllr. E. Byrne and Cllr. T. Cullen contributed to which the C.E.O responded as follows:-

- The role of Health Boards C.E.O.s with regard to the annual adjustment of income guidelines for medical card eligibility was clarified. Contributions from some members regarding the possible future extension of medical card entitlement to other groups, e.g. children, were noted and it was agreed to convey the issues raised to the interim Health Service Executive.

The presentation was noted.

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C.E.O.'S REPORT

The C.E.O. read Report No. 5/2004 to members [copy filed with official minute].

Areas covered in the report are set out below:-

- Ireland's Changing Heart Campaign
- European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)
- Mental Health Services Update
- Intellectual Disability Service Update
- Home Help Service Update
- Traveller Health Leaflet
- Drug Prevalence Survey
- Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist Posts
- Health Services Reform Update

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- Consultant Appointment
- Assistant Chief Executive - Update

Discussion followed to which Cllr. E. Byrne, Ms. A. Harris, Cllr. F. O'Loughlin, Ms. M. Hoban, and Cllr. C. Byrne contributed and to which the C.E.O. and Ms. R. Buckley, Assistant Chief Executive, responded.

- The position regarding the provision of Home Help Services in the Board's area, within current budget parameters, was outlined. It was indicated, however, that specific cases of particular difficulty could be looked at individually as they arise. It was agreed to forward information to members outlining the draft criteria for home help services which are currently under discussion.

The C.E.O.'s Report was noted.

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MATTERS FOR MENTION/MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

In response to a query raised by Ms. M. Hoban, to which Cllr. F. O'Loughlin and Cllr. T. Cullen also contributed, it was agreed to update members on the current position regarding Phase 3C of the Naas General Hospital development.

46/2004

PROGRESS REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

It was agreed to defer adoption of the Progress Report from the adjourned Primary, Acute and Community Services Standing Committee meeting held on 21st April, 2004, until after the reconvening of this meeting on 13th May, 2004.

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PROGRESS REPORT FROM CHILD CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

On a proposal by Cllr. E. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. F. O'Loughlin, the Progress Report from the Child Care Advisory Committee was adopted.

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CORRESPONDENCE

The item of correspondence, as referred to in the C.E.O.'s report, was noted by members.

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**SCHEDULE OF VISITS FOR BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS
(MAY 2004)**

The schedule of visits for Board Members and Committee Meetings for May 2004, which had been circulated with the agenda papers, was noted by members.

**CORRECT: P. DONNELLY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

CHAIRMAN