

SOUTH WESTERN AREA HEALTH BOARD

**Minutes of the proceedings of the Special Meeting of the South Western Area Health Board
held in the Board Room, Oak House, Millennium Park, Naas, Co. Kildare,
on Friday, 30th January, 2004, at 2.00 p.m.**

Present

Mr. P. Aspell
Cllr. E. Byrne
Cllr. J. Daly
Ms. M. Hoban
Cllr. C. McGrath
Cllr. F. O'Loughlin
Cllr. T. Ridge

Dr. S. Barry
Cllr. T. Cullen
Ms. A. Harris
Mr. C. Lynch
Dr. B. Murphy
Cllr. J. Reilly
Cllr. D. Tipping

Non-Voting Members

Cllr. G. McGuire

Apologies

Cllr. C. Byrne
Ms. N. Harvey
Ald. M. Mooney

Cllr. A. Kane
Cllr. M. Miley

In the Chair

Cllr. T. Ridge

Officers in Attendance

Mr. P. Donnelly, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. H. Kane, Deputy C.E.O.
Mr. R. Mitchell, Assistant Chief Executive
Ms. R. Buckley, Assistant Chief Executive
Mr. M. Rogan, Assistant Chief Executive
Mr. D. Lyons, Director of Finance
Ms. M. Gorry, A/Director of Human Resources
Mr. D. Delaney, Director of Communications
Mr. R. Healy, Board Secretary
Ms. A. Farrell, Administrative Support, C.E.O.'s Office

01/2004

DRAFT 2004 PROVIDER PLAN

At the outset, Cllr. T. Ridge informed members that she was deputising for Ald. M. Mooney as Chair of the meeting.

In response to a query raised by Cllr. T. Cullen at the start of the meeting, it was agreed to obtain information for him on the matter raised.

The C.E.O. then proceeded to outline the main aspects of the Draft 2004 Provider Plan which had previously been circulated to members with the agenda papers [copy filed with official minute].

He referred to the key priorities and issues for the Board over the coming year including:-

- the need to maintain services within the existing level of funding;
- the need to progress developments in areas such as primary care, older persons, acute services and disabilities;
- the need to continue to progress the various national strategies;
- the need to progress with the modernisation agenda and to build on partnership working;
- the need to continue to work towards enhanced service delivery and improved integration of services;
- the need to develop the ICT infrastructure within the board, in conjunction with E.H.S.S.;
- the need to keep within the staff ceiling while progressing human resources management and staff development, including the recruitment and retention of appropriate staff mix.

Although the Board had not as yet received a Letter of Allocation from E.R.H.A. for 2004, the C.E.O. emphasised the board's ongoing need to target available resources to those most in need of services. He also emphasised that, in view of the forthcoming Health Service Reform Programme, it will be important to maintain services at the current level.

Finally, the C.E.O. expressed appreciation to the board's staff for their hard work and commitment over 2003 and acknowledged the challenges that 2004 will bring.

At this point, the Chairman formally welcomed Mr. Christy Lynch as a new member of the Board.

Discussion then followed to which Cllr. T. Ridge, Cllr. T. Cullen, Cllr. J. Reilly, Cllr. C. McGrath, Cllr. F. O'Loughlin, Mr. C. Lynch, Dr. S. Barry, Dr. B. Murphy, Ms. M. Hoban contributed and to which the C.E.O. responded, including:-

- Additional information on the planned dual diagnosis facility in Moore Abbey will be given to members, through the C.E.O.'s Report, at the forthcoming Board Meeting.
- It was acknowledged that the mental health and addiction services have not received additional allocations of funding over the past few years and that this has posed challenges in the development of these services.

- It was agreed to obtain further information on the addiction services available outside the Dublin area.

In conclusion, members thanked the C.E.O. and noted the draft Provider Plan. It was agreed to arrange another meeting to discuss it further when the board's Letter of Allocation for 2004 is received.

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