

SOUTH WESTERN AREA HEALTH BOARD

**Minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the South Western Area Health Board held
in the Saggart Suite, Citywest Hotel, Saggart, Co. Dublin,
on Tuesday, 10th December, 2002, at 6.00 p.m.**

Present

Mr. P. Aspell	Dr. S. Barry
Mr. G. Brady	Cllr. C. Byrne
Cllr. E. Byrne	Cllr. T. Cullen
Dr. K. Harkin	Ms. A. Harris
Ms. M. Hoban	Cllr. M. Miley
Cllr. C. McGrath	Ald. M. Mooney
Dr. B. Murphy	Cllr. J. Reilly
Cllr. T. Ridge	Cllr. D. Tipping

Non-Voting Members

Mr. G. McGuire

Apologies

Mr. J. Fallon	Dr. M. Gueret
Ms. N. Harvey	Cllr. C. O'Connor, T.D.
Cllr. J. Wall, T.D.	

In the Chair

Cllr. T. Ridge

Officers in Attendance

Mr. P. Donnelly, Chief Executive Officer
 Mr. P. Bennett, Assistant Chief Executive
 Mr. S. O'Brien, Assistant Chief Executive
 Mr. D. Lyons, A/Assistant Chief Executive
 Mr. M. Rogan, A/Assistant Chief Executive
 Mr. R. Mitchell, Director of Communications
 Ms. M. Glynn, A/Director of Finance
 Ms. M. Clear, Director – Children & Families
 Mr. R. Healy, Board Secretary
 Mr. R. Kavanagh, Senior Manager, Operations
 Ms. C. Cuffe, Senior Manager, Operations
 Ms. C. Bergin, Senior Manager, Operations
 Mr. K. Cleary, Senior Manager, Operations
 Ms. A. Barry, Office Manager, Operations
 Ms. P. Daly, Communications Officer
 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

Members were invited to join with the Chairman in standing for a minute's silence to express sincere sympathy to those whose names were included on the list of condolences.

The Chairman then proceeded to advise members of the following:-

1. *Brú Chaoimhín Resident - 100 years of age*

On 9th November last I attended a birthday celebration for Mr. Christopher Butterly, a resident of Bru Chaoimhin, Cork Street, who was 100 years of age. A great afternoon was had by many of the residents of Brú Chaoimhín as Christopher is also the oldest resident in the home. Four generations of Christopher's family also attended the celebrations and I made a presentation of a letter of congratulations and cheque sent to Christopher by President McAleese.

Cllr. Eric Byrne also attended this event in his capacity as Deputy Lord Mayor, Dublin City Council and made a presentation of a special framed scroll to Christopher to mark the occasion.

2. *Community Alcohol Awareness Project*

On 21st November I closed the Kilcock Community Alcohol Awareness Project. During this unique health promoting event, staff from the South Western Area Health Board worked closely with members of the local community promoting health and awareness with regard to alcohol usage within this community.

There were a number of elements to this project which carried a safe drinking message and as such was supported by all members of the community including:- schools, sporting organisations, community groups, publicans and the Gardaí. Local healthcare professionals took part in alcohol awareness training and the Vintners Association and the Department of Health & Children were involved in developing a 'responsible serving of alcohol programme'.

The closing ceremony included a summary of the project, a debate and the presentation of prizes for the Primary School Art Competition.

3. *Association of Health Boards*

I wish to confirm that Cllr. Tommy Cullen and Cllr. Colm McGrath were re-nominated as the South Western Area Health Board representatives to sit on the Executive Committee of the Association of Health Boards in Ireland for the coming year.

I would also like to bring to the attention of members, notification that the Association of Health Boards in Ireland will be holding its annual conference in the Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny, on 21st and 22nd March, 2003. The complete conference programme and registration forms will be circulated to all members when available.

4. *January Board Meeting*

I would like to draw members' attention to the notice in the Agenda Papers regarding the first Board Meeting of 2003. This meeting will take place on Tuesday, 14th January, 2003, at 2.00 p.m. in Millennium Park.

5. *February Board Meeting*

Following consultation with the C.E.O., I would like to propose to members that we hold the February Meeting of the Board in the Coombe Women's Hospital, Dolphin's Barn, on 4th February, 2003. I have asked the C.E.O. to discuss the matter with the Master of the hospital and make the necessary arrangements.

6. *Seasons Greetings*

Finally, may I take this opportunity to wish board members and staff a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

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MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON 5TH NOVEMBER, 2002

The minutes of the proceedings of the Board Meeting held on 5th November, 2002, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Dr. B. Murphy, seconded by Ms. M. Hoban.

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QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

On a proposal by Dr. B. Murphy, seconded by Ms. A. Harris, it was agreed to answer the questions which had been lodged.

1. *Dr. Kieran Harkin*

"Can the C.E.O. please re-circulate the report (2000) on the provision of modified shoes for orthopaedic services and indicate which recommendations have been implemented and comment upon the recommendations which have not been implemented?"

Reply:

Arrangements are being made to re-circulate this report to Board Members.

An Implementation Group was established in April 2002 to examine the above report and decide on the way forward in progressing and establishing a service which deals specifically with orthoses and special footwear. This group established that the recommendation concerning the protocols for request of orthotic devices is now in place at Community Care level.

The other recommendations are the subject of discussions with the Board's Senior Physiotherapy staff with particular reference to the resource implications.

The Implementation Group will remain in place to oversee the follow through of all recommendations in the report.

2. Dr. Kieran Harkin

“Could the C.E.O. please describe the alcohol treatment services currently available within the South Western Area Health Board. Could the C.E.O. please comment upon both the need for and level of such services and outline any development plans with timeframes?”

Could the C.E.O. please describe any policies that may exist within the Board’s area concerning the admission to a psychiatric hospital for the purpose of alcohol detoxification and/or treatment?”

Reply:

The South Western Area Health Board Alcohol Service was developed 11 years ago and consists of five counsellors at the Community Alcohol Service at Belgard Road in Tallaght, along with four counsellors serving Co. Kildare and West Wicklow. This service requires considerable development to begin to address the wide-ranging needs of presenting clients. In addition, Naas General Hospital has a specified member of nursing staff who works with patients presenting with issues related to alcohol misuse.

There are 40 Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) groups active in the South Western Area Health Board and a number of voluntary and community-based addiction services also support those experiencing difficulties with alcohol. Also in the voluntary sector, residential programmes are provided in Cuan Mhuire, Athy.

As reported to the Board in April 2002, the need to extend our range and capacity of services is well-recognised. The South Western Area Health Board is actively working with the Eastern Regional Health Authority on a review to evaluate the alcohol services in the Eastern Region.

The review has the following terms of reference:-

1. To review current alcohol services in the Eastern Region and make recommendations on changes to service provision and capacity to deal with present and future requirements.
2. To review the current literature on best practice in alcohol prevention, treatment and rehabilitation services.
3. To highlight gaps in service provision in the areas of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.
4. To collate the views of current service providers on service issues and future requirements of services.

A detailed submission has been forwarded to the Eastern Regional Health Authority seeking funds to extend the capacity of our alcohol service in 2003, based on the report on alcohol services adopted by the Board in April 2002. Similar submissions made in 2001/2002 did not receive funding. The time-frame for progressing developments in this service will be dependent on the allocation of required resources.

Each patient referred to the mental health services is assessed individually and the admitting clinician decides on the most appropriate treatment course. Where community-based alcohol detoxification is indicated, referral to that service is made. Patients requiring in-patient detoxification are referred to an acute hospital. The former Clinical Director of the St. Loman's Service and the Kildare/West Wicklow Mental Health Service formulated guidelines for medical staff regarding the management of individuals requesting admission for alcohol-related problems.

Individuals with mental illness occasionally present with a co-existing history of alcohol misuse. In this instance, it is usually necessary to treat the alcohol misuse in parallel, either on an in-patient or out-patient basis.

3. Cllr. Eric Byrne

"Will the C.E.O. give a detailed breakdown of the cost of employing the 16 chaplains currently engaged by the South Western Area Health Board? Will he outline to whom other religious groups, i.e. the Russian Orthodox Church or the 3 religious Moslem communities, may apply to seek employment for the provision of a similar service and the criteria required for such employment?"

Reply:

The following is a breakdown of the current cost of employing the 16 chaplains engaged by the South Western Area Health Board:-

Service	Cost	Details
Psychiatric Service based in AMiNCH, Tallaght	€9,000 per annum (20 hrs per week)	2 x Roman Catholic 1 x Church of Ireland 1 x Methodist 1 x Presbyterian
St. Loman's Hospital	€21,585.60 per annum (Currently full-time, will be half-time from January 2003.)	1 x Roman Catholic
Naas General Hospital	€1,303 per annum	1 x Roman Catholic 1 x Church of Ireland
Services for the Elderly	€5,933.29 per annum	5 x Roman Catholic 3 x Church of Ireland
Total:	€7,821.89	16 Chaplains

A formal contract of employment, negotiated through the Department of Health & Children and the Dublin Archdiocese, governs the employment of Roman Catholic chaplains. This contract deals with the rate of pay, reporting relationships, recruitment and standards of certification of Roman Catholic chaplains. Chaplains from other Christian faiths continue to be engaged on a stipend basis at the approved rates. In addition, lay people and other religious from the various faiths, also visit our services.

In respect of the pastoral requirements of our patients and clients from other faiths, such requirements are facilitated as the need arises by local management.

4. Cllr. Charlie O'Connor, T.D.

“To ask the C.E.O. to now provide staff to fill the vacancies for Speech and Language Teachers at St. Mark’s National School, Springfield and Ard Mhuire National School, Belgard, both in Tallaght, Dublin 24, and will he make a statement?”

Reply:

The East Coast Area Health Board has regional responsibility for this service. They have advised us that they are currently preparing documentation in order to advertise for the above posts as a matter of urgency both in the U.K. and Ireland.

The review of this service undertaken by the East Coast Area Health Board is now complete and indications are that the report will be available early in the new year.

5. Cllr. Charlie O'Connor, T.D.

“To ask the C.E.O. to urgently investigate any threat to public health arising from the asbestos roof at St. Killian’s Junior National School in Castlevue, Tallaght, Dublin 24; will he note the concern of parents and make a statement?”

Reply:

St. Killian’s Junior National School in Castlevue, Tallaght, has an asbestos roof. Following a period of heavy rainfall, part of the roof in the secretary’s office collapsed. The Environmental Health Service, South Western Area Health Board, contacted the Health and Safety Authority who then advised that the matter be referred for their attention and investigation. They agreed to revert to the Board as soon as their investigation was complete.

I further understand that the Health and Safety Unit of the Office of Public Works monitored the air quality in the school at the end of November last. All air test results were found to be clear and monitoring will continue.

I will advise members further when the report from the Health and Safety Authority is received.

6. Dr. Siobhán Barry

“Re: Proposed 3-5 year Action Plan for Mental Health in the South Western Area Health Board brought to the Board (4th December 2001), could the CEO update the Board on the:-

- Amount secured, to date, of the total capital & revenue resources of 70.38 million Euro (IR£48.24million) vital to this plan?
- Implementation of the 12 proposed actions to redress the current position?”

Reply:

- In 2001, €1,016,000 was allocated to the Kildare Mental Health Service. This sum was used to acquire Clonree House in Newbridge. No additional capital

funding has been secured to advance major capital projects in this service. Smaller minor capital projects have advanced in Lakeview Unit and Tús Nua.

The South Western Area Board intends to dispose of Auburn House in Kilcock and reinvest the proceeds in a more suitable Day Hospital premises at Whitestown.

Two Social Housing Developments are progressing in partnership with Celbridge Mental Health Association and the Housing Association for Integrated Living (HAIL) at Kildare town. These projects will utilise Department of the Environment funding.

- At the December 2001 Board meeting an Action Plan for Mental Health Services in the South Western Area Health Board was adopted. Twelve areas were identified for specific attention; our staff have made significant progress in the implementation of these objectives, which include;

Rehabilitation

- The Post of Rehabilitation Consultant in Dublin West, South West Mental Health Service was advertised. This post is in conjunction with AMiNCH, Tallaght.
- The Advance Building replacing Unit F as the Rehabilitation inpatient setting at St Loman's opened on 5th December, 2002.
- Teach Bán is currently being refurbished.
- Twelve additional staff have been trained in the detailed *Needs for Care Assessment* tool. This uniform assessment is now used across the whole South Western Area Board.
- The FACE assessment will be implemented in a computerised format in early 2003.
- Platinum Club House in Newbridge received its 12-month accreditation status and the second Club House opened in Clondalkin in August 2002.

Integration

- Mental Health Care staff have been working directly with their peers from Local Authorities to identify the most appropriate housing options in Dublin City, South Dublin County, Co. Kildare & Co. Wicklow.
- Specific programmes to encourage service users to avail of local community amenities have been put in place, reducing their dependence on formal mental health services. This process is currently being evaluated as part of the Celbridge Extended Hours Day Hospital Project.
- Mental Health Care staff are now actively engaged in Area Management Teams at the invitation of the General Managers.
- Direct working relationships have been formed with FÁS and a wider range of vocational training providers.
- Steps to create supported pathways to third level educational opportunities will commence in 2003.

Primary Care & Mental Health

- The Suicide & Primary Care Training Project has completed Phase One, with a successful seminar held on 25th September 2002. A range of training materials have been developed in conjunction with the ICGP. The South Western Area Health Board funded this project with assistance from the National Suicide Review Group.

- A Director of the Primary Care & Mental Health Research Project took up post in July 2002. This project examines the current reality for general practitioners treating people with mental illness in the South Western Area Health Board. Over 300 G.P.s have been surveyed and many have indicated a wish to participate in follow-through focus groups on the topic.

Families

- A six-week Educational Programme for Families has been delivered in Celbridge as part of the extended hours programme. The National Health Service Partnership has funded this pilot programme. A second programme has already been scheduled for Spring 2003 with a third programme provided for.
- New information/educational materials for families are being developed by our services in West Dublin and Kildare.
- The proposed extension of Home Care to other sectors in Dublin West/South West aims to reduce the family burden associated with caring for a mentally ill relative.
- Additional respite facilities are included in the plans for new residential services.
- The views of many family members are represented through Voluntary Organisations (*see below*).

Specialisation/Sectorisation

A number of new Consultant posts are proceeding:-

- Rehabilitation Post in Dublin West/South West (*see above under "Rehabilitation"*).
- Consultant Psychiatrist-led Team specialising in the needs of the Homeless Mentally Ill (*currently with Comhairle na nOispidéal*).
- Four Consultant sessions at the Coombe Women's Hospital (*currently with Comhairle na nOispidéal*).
- Additional staff will join the Psychiatry of Old Age Team in West Dublin in January 2003.
- The Dublin South City service is sectorising with the opening of St. Martha's Day Hospital in Kilmainham. Two distinct sectors will be created - *Camac & Owendoher*.

Environmental

- A number of environmental improvement works have been completed; Lakeview Unit in Naas has been repainted, the Jonathan Swift Clinic at St. James's Hospital has been completely redecorated and improvements have been made to Rowan & Cedar Units in Tallaght.
- Additional resources have been allocated to relocate Tallaght Day Hospital and Day Centre to a brand new facility adjacent to the hospital.
- The windows in St. Columba's Day Hospital & High Support Hostel have been replaced.
- A number of our mental health facilities are being upgraded and replaced (*see below under "Capital Investment"*).

Capital Investment

- The 22-bedded Advance Building has opened at St Loman's (*5th Dec. 2002*). This unit replaces Unit F as the in-patient Rehabilitation Unit.

- The extensive refurbishment of St Martha's Day Hospital & Sector H.Q. was completed in 2002.
- A New Day Centre for Clondalkin at St Brigid's is currently awaiting planning permission (change of use) with a view to opening early in the New Year.
- Teach Bán in Newcastle, Co. Dublin will be refurbished and ready to open as a High Support Hostel early in 2003.
- Plans for a Mental Health Day Centre in the Meath Hospital are with the Department of Health & Children.
- Full Architect drawings for the new St Loman's Health Park have been prepared.
- Two Social Housing Projects are progressing with Celbridge MHA and HAIL.

Public Perception

The South Western Area Health Board is anxious to promote a positive and accurate image of our mental health services and to promote a greater understanding of mental health issues.

- Mental Health Awareness Training for local media will take place in Spring 2003.
- Information guides for service users and families are at an advanced stage.
- Improvement of our facilities at St Loman's, Kildare and Kilmainham is ongoing.
- The Primary Care & Mental Health Project will guide the production of information materials targeted specifically at G.P.s.
- A number of mental health events organised by the South Western Area Health Board have been covered by local and national media - Examples include – *'Suicide – A Challenge for Primary Care' Seminar, (Main Evening News, RTE), Services for Homeless Mentally Ill (Morning Ireland), World Mental Health Day (Leinster Leader).*

Service User Views

- A number of *Peer & Self Advocacy Training* programmes have taken place.
- The South Western Area Health Board is funding the post of Development Officer with the Irish Advocacy Network which was taken up in October 2002.
- An accredited training programme preparing Nursing Staff for the emergence of Peer Advocacy has been devised in association with D.C.U. This has commenced with 20 participants. The Nursing & Midwifery Development Unit at E.R.H.A. funds this programme.
- Mental Health Service Users have been directly involved in 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 Services.
 - Development of new Information materials for Service Users.

Mental Health Promotion

- A Suicide Resource Officer & Mental Health Promotions Officer took up post in January 2002. A number of Mental Health Promoting Projects have been initiated, including:
 - Training Programmes for Healthcare Staff in the South Western Area Health Board and the Acute Hospitals.
 - Seminars for teachers as part of the SPHE Programme.
 - World Mental Health Day Seminar with OAK & ASK Partnerships in Kildare in October.
 - Training and Awareness events with third level colleges – T.C.D.; N.U.I., Maynooth; N.C.A.D.
 - Media training and interviews with local print and broadcast media.
 - Working closely with voluntary agencies in promoting positive mental health (*see below*).
 - Cinema advertising campaign being run during December 2002 as part of our Suicide Prevention Strategy.

Voluntary Organisations

- Senior Mental Health Care staff meet regularly with the principal voluntary agencies active in the South Western Area Health Board - Mental Health Ireland, Schizophrenia Ireland, AWARE, GROW, Samaritans, BodyWhys, Out & About, HAIL, Irish Advocacy Network. These meetings are designed as an opportunity for information exchange.
- This Board has seconded two experienced staff to work as Development Officers with Mental Health Ireland.
- Section 65 grants are paid directly to AWARE, Irish Advocacy Network & HAIL. The South Western Area Health Board also allocates health related National Lottery funds to voluntary agencies working in mental health.
- Three voluntary organisations are represented on the South Western Area Health Board Steering Group on Suicide.
- Voluntary organisations have been actively encouraged to participate in the review of the Dublin West and South West Mental Health Service.

New Technology

- The Eastern Regional Health Authority has allocated €100,000 to the introduction of a Mental Health I.T. system in Dublin West and South West. Each facility in Dublin West & South West will have immediate access to computer hardware, software, networks and training. This will allow for the easy exchange of information between the Acute Units at Tallaght, St Lomans, Day Hospitals and Clinics. The selection of an integrated Mental Health I.T. system will begin in Spring 2003.
- In line with the recommendations of the Commission on Nursing, additional P.C.s have been provided in each service.

These initiatives are underpinned by the South Western Area Health Board's Organisational Strategy with a number of implementation plans directly related to the actions listed above.

7. Cllr. Don Tipping

“To ask the Chief Executive to make a statement on the effects of Government Policy regarding rent allowance in the private sector and to state what restrictions this places

on the workings of his officials who come face to face with the public who due to their low income avail of this scheme.”

Reply:

Health Boards, through the Community Welfare Service, administer the Rent Supplement Scheme under the Social Welfare (Consolidation) Act, 1973, 1995 and other guidelines issued by the Department of Social and Family Affairs.

Rent Supplements are weekly income supplements payable to persons who are unable to meet the reasonable costs of accommodation from their own income and who are eligible to a payment under the legislation (e.g. persons in full-time work or full-time education or involved in a trade dispute are disqualified from receiving a payment).

Under this legislation and Department Circulars and Guidelines, Health Boards are obliged to set “Maximum Levels of Reasonable Rent” for rental accommodation within their area, which are to be reviewed annually. The rates for the three Area Health Boards within the former Eastern Health Board areas were last reviewed and new rates of “Maximum Levels of Reasonable Rent” implemented from 1st January, 2002.

A recent decision by the Chief Appeals Officer (Department of Social and Family Affairs) found that the Health Board “Maximum Levels of Reasonable Rates” were guidelines, and have no legislative basis, and thus had found in favour of appellants seeking rent supplements in excess of the limits set by the Health Boards. Therefore, the Department of Social and Family Affairs, by Statutory Instrument No. 527 of 2002 (dated 22/11/02) amended S.I. No. 382 of 1995 to give a statutory basis to the maximum levels of reasonable rent set by the Health Boards, for the period from 22/11/02 to 31/12/03.

The regulations provide for the continuation, until 31st December 2003, of the current levels of maximum rent, as determined by Health Boards, in respect of which rent supplement is paid. They also provide that rent supplement shall not be payable where the level of rent paid exceeds the maximum level determined by the Health Board.

Should particular problems occur with the implementation of these directives, they will be communicated to the Department of Social and Family Affairs.

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PRESENTATION ON SOUTH WESTERN AREA HEALTH BOARD CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES IN 2001 - REVIEW OF ADEQUACY

Mr. Pat Bennett, Assistant Chief Executive, gave an outline to members on the principal aspects of the Board’s Children and Families Services in 2001 – Review of Adequacy [copy circulated with agenda papers]. He indicated that in drawing up the report previously expressed views of members were taken into account and that costings for inadequacies identified will be available by the end of January 2003.

Discussion followed to which Dr. S. Barry, Cllr. C. McGrath, Cllr. T. Ridge, Cllr. J. Reilly, Ms. M. Hoban, Dr. B. Murphy, and Cllr. E. Byrne contributed and to which Mr. Bennett responded as follows:-

- There has been considerable improvement in the recruitment of some posts since 2001, however, there are still difficulties with recruitment of therapy grades.
- Figures relating to comparative analysis with other Health Boards nationally, where available, for this service will be presented to the Board early in the new year.
- Clarification was provided regarding the Speech & Language Therapy post in Celbridge.
- It was agreed to review costings for new posts/full staff complement.
- It was agreed to review the immunisation uptake in the Board's area.
- Clarification was provided regarding pre-school assessments.
- Clarification was provided regarding issues concerning the child and adolescent mental health service and addiction services for young people.
- It was agreed to obtain clarification on the percentage breakdown of administrative staff in the Health Board.

On a proposal by Cllr. T. Ridge, seconded by Cllr. J. Reilly, members adopted the report on the basis that members' views expressed at the meeting are taken into account.

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C.E.O.'S REPORT

The C.E.O. read Report No. 16/2002 to members [copy filed with official minute].

Areas covered in the report are set out below:-

- Naas General Hospital
- Community Alcohol Awareness Project
- Mental Health in Primary Care Project
- Allocation for Adult Homeless Service
- Action Plan for People Management in the Health Service
- Organisational Strategy Update
- Assistant Chief Executive Posts
- Christmas Message

Discussion followed to which Dr. S. Barry, Cllr. J. Reilly, Mr. G. McGuire, Cllr. T. Cullen, Ms. M. Hoban, Dr. K. Harkin, Cllr. T. Ridge, and Cllr. D. Tipping contributed and to which the C.E.O. responded as follows:-

- Members were informed that the Department of Health & Children guidelines are followed in dealing with orthodontics waiting lists.
- The position re the bed capacity in the new Naas General Hospital building was clarified.

Mr. Martin Rogan, A/Assistant Chief Executive, also provided clarification on a number of issues including:-

- The development of a detoxification unit at the Simon Community, Ushers Island;
- Background to Teach Iosa hostel for the homeless in Athy - it was agreed to arrange a visit for members to this facility;
- Funding for the further development of the Homeless Service Database.

Members also paid tribute to Mr. Seamus O'Brien, Assistant Chief Executive, on his forthcoming retirement and thanked him for his work with the Board over the years.

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

134/2002**MATTERS FOR MENTION/MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters for mention/matters arising from the minutes.

135/2002**PROGRESS REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

On a proposal by Ms. A. Harris, seconded by Mr. P. Aspell, the progress report from the Community Services and Continuing Care Standing Committee meeting dated 31st October, 2002, was adopted.

On a proposal by Ms. M. Hoban, seconded by Cllr. M. Miley, the progress report from the Community Services and Continuing Care Standing Committee meeting dated 14th November, 2002, was adopted.

On a proposal by Mr. P. Aspell, seconded by Cllr. M. Miley, the progress report from the Community Services and Continuing Care Standing Committee meeting dated 15th November, 2002, was adopted. Cllr. T. Cullen thanked the staff from the Operations Department and Baltinglass District Hospital for arranging this meeting so expeditiously.

On a proposal by Cllr. J. Reilly, seconded by Cllr. M. Miley, the progress report from the Disabilities, Mental Health & Addiction and Acute Services Standing Committee meeting dated 21st November, 2002, was adopted.

136/2002**CORRESPONDENCE**

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

137/2002**SCHEDULE OF VISITS FOR BOARD MEMBERS AND STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS (DECEMBER 2002)**

The schedule of visits for Board Members and Standing Committee meetings for December 2002, which had been circulated with the agenda papers, was noted by members.

138/2002**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The January meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, 14th January, 2002, at 2.00 p.m. in the Board Room, Oak House, Millennium Park, Naas, Co. Kildare.

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

CHAIRMAN