



EASTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Údarás Réigiúnda Sláinte an Oirthir EASTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Minutes of proceedings of Board Meeting
held in the Boardroom, Dr Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8
on Thursday 2nd November at 6.00 p.m.

Present

2000

Mr. P. Aspell	Dr. S. Barry
Cllr. L. Butler	Cllr. C. Burke
Cllr. E. Byrne	Cllr. M. Corrigan
Mr. M. Cowley	Cllr. T. Cullen
Cllr. A. Devitt	Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne
Mr. J. Dolan	Cllr. P. Doran
Ald. Sen. J. Doyle	Cllr. A. Doyle
Mr. J. Fallon	Dr. J. Fennell
Cllr. Dr. D. Fitzpatrick	Cllr. T. Fox
Dr. M. Gueret	Dr. K. Harkin
Ms. A. Harris	Ms. N. Harvey
Ms. M. Hoban	Dr. M. Laffoy
Mr. P. Ledwidge	Cllr. C. McGrath
Mr. G. McGuire	Cllr. M. Miley
Dr. M. Molloy	Dr. B. Murphy
Mr. Michael Murphy	Cllr. E. O'Brien
Cllr. Dr. W. O'Connell	Cllr. C. O'Connor
Cllr. M. O'Donovan	Sen. S. O'Fearghail
Cllr. J. Reilly	Dr. J. Reilly
Cllr. R. Shortall T.D.	Cllr. D. Tipping
Mr. L. Tuomey	Cllr. J. Wall
Cllr. Jack Wall TD	

In the Chair

Cllr. J Reilly ~~TD~~

Apologies

Cllr. C. Byrne	Cllr. O. Mitchell T.D.
Cllr. D. Murray	

In Attendance

Mr. Donal O Shea, Chief Executive	
Mr. Pat McLoughlin	Mr. Liam Woods
Dr. B. O'Herlihy	Ms. Maureen Browne

The Chairman read the Opening Prayer

00/11/62 CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

Agenda Item No. 1

The Chairman submitted a summary of visits recently made to hospitals throughout the region

- The Mater Misericordiae Hospital, where he announced ERHA funding of £1.1 million. This will fund the development of the Breast Screening Unit - which with the Unit in St. Vincent's Hospital, Elm Park - will support and deliver the national breast screening initiative, the development of the Diabetic Day Centre, a replacement gamma camera and improved theatre facilities.
- St. Michael's House in Ballymun where he announced £3.29 million for expansion of services
- The Royal Hospital in Donnybrook, where he confirmed funding of £2.1 million for the refurbishment project at the hospital
- St. Vincent's Hospital, Fairview where he visited the new 25-place day hospital and the 7-bed observation unit for which the ERHA recently announced funding of £126,000
- The Incorporated Orthopaedic Hospital in Clontarf, where he announced approval for the establishment of a project team for a major capital development which will enable the hospital to expand its services and which will increase the total bed complement from 104 to 160 beds
- St. Michael's House, Ballymun, where he announced funding of £3.29 million for expansion of services.

A discussion took place to which the following members contributed Cllr. Devitt, Cllr. C. O'Connor, Mr. G. Maguire, Sen. J. Doyle, Mr. P. Ledwidge, Cllr. C. Burke, Cllr. T. Cullen & Cllr. L. Butler.

The Chief Executive clarified the issues raised. He said that any moneys announced by the Chairman had already been notified to the Board prior to these dates. He also outlined that there is a legal relationship between the Authority and the 39 bodies and that the Chairman in making those visits was merely fulfilling his function as Chairman of the Board of the Authority.

Cllr. Reilly, Deputy Chairman, said that in the absence of the Chairman it was not appropriate to make any response to the issues raised. He said that the Chairman should be made aware of the comments and questions raised and refer these to the Protocol Committee.

This was agreed.

**00/11/62 Minutes of Proceedings of Monthly Meeting held on the 5th
October 2000**

Agenda Item No. 2

The draft Minutes of the proceedings of the monthly meeting held on the 5th October 2000, had been circulated.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Corrigan that under Item 00/10/58 – Report 11/00 Commissioning of Intellectual Disability Services, the following sentence be added – “Places would be appropriate for the needs of ^{specific} ~~specific~~ individuals”. **This was agreed.**

The adoption of the amended draft as the minute of the meeting was proposed by Cllr. C. O’Connor and seconded by Cllr. T. Cullen **and agreed.**

00/11/63 Questions to the Chief Executive

Agenda Item No. 3

On a proposal by Cllr. E. Byrne and seconded by Cllr. L. Butler it was agreed to answer the question which had been lodged:

(i) Cllr. E. Byrne

“To ask the Chief Executive the number of Public nursing home beds there are in the region? Will he give a breakdown of these beds, the numbers in the “Public” sector? i.e., in Health Board premises and the total provided by the religious/voluntary sector and private nursing home contract beds.

Of the above total will he say how many of these beds are exclusively assessed by Geriatricians and how many are assessed by other means?”

Reply

“To ask the Chief Executive the number of public nursing home beds there are in the region?”

Total number of public (Health Board funded) nursing home beds:

	Assessment/ Rehab	Respite	Extended care	Convalescent	Welfare	Total
NAHB	153	29	567	33	94	876
SWAHB	166	28	871	27	18	1,110
ECAHB	120	78	787	62	147	1,194
Total	439	135	2,225	122	259	3,180

“Will he give a breakdown of these beds, the numbers in the public sector? I.e. in health board premises and the total provided by the religious/voluntary sector and private nursing home contract beds?”

Total number of private nursing home beds: 4,603

This number is made up of:

Total number of religious/voluntary beds: 1,622

Total number of private nursing home beds: 2,981

(822 of the above beds are private nursing *contract* beds, funded by the Health Board but located in private nursing homes)

“Of the above total will he say how many of these beds are exclusively assessed by Geriatricians and how many are assessed by other means”

Admission to long stay care is organised via the Departments of Medicine for the Elderly or Psychiatry of Old Age in Acute General Hospitals. These admissions may be from the acute hospitals or community setting. A Geriatrician assesses every person admitted for a long stay bed.

(ii) **Cllr. O. Mitchell TD**

“To ask the Chief Executive if he could indicate how often private childcare facilities within the Health Authority’s area are inspected: the annual cost of inspection and if there is a mechanism in place of recording the numbers of closures as a result of inspection and the principle reasons for closures?”

Cllr Mitchell sent her apologies for the meeting and asked that her response be sent by post.

Cllr O’Connor stated that he believed that if a question is on the Agenda it should stay on the agenda and it can only be withdrawn by decision of the Board. It was agreed and it was also decided that a copy of the Chief Executive’s reply should be sent to each member of the Board.

00/11/64 Matters for Mention
Agenda Item No. 4

Cllr Eric Byrne asked that an emergency motion be discussed at the meeting.

“This Authority notes with dismay the attacks upon the Travelling Community, Asylum Seekers and people with disabilities by the journalist Mary-Ellen Synon and the Sunday Independent newspaper.

As we are the Authority responsible for ensuring the delivery of Medical and Health Services to these groups, this Authority agrees to suspend advertising in the Sunday Independent for six months”.

The Deputy Chair outlined that as the motion had not been received within the time limits to be included in the Board Agenda and papers it could not be moved but that if agreed by the members it could be discussed as an urgent item for mention. **This was agreed.**

A discussion took place on the article in the Sunday Independent and the following members contributed, Cllr. E. Byrne, Mr. J. Dolan, Cllr. C. O'Connor, Cllr. J. Dillon Burke, Cllr. C. Burke; Mr. G. Maguire, Sen. Ald J. Doyle, Mr. M. Molloy and Mr. M. Cowley.

The Chief Executive told the meeting that the placement of advertising was an executive matter. There was a conjoint system of procurement for all the Health Boards collectively.

This was agreed on the basis that it secured the best value for money by reaching the widest relevant audience at the least cost. This was particularly important at present with Health Boards are trying to recruit a large number of staff in a very competitive environment.

He said that the current agreement was due for review shortly. He said he would bring the strongly expressed views of the ERHA Board Members to the attention of the Chief Executives of the Health Boards when they were engaged in the review and he was sure they would bear this in mind.

✓ **00/11/65** **Report 12/00 Commissioning of Opiate Addiction Service**
Agenda Item No. 5

Mr. Pat McLoughlin, Director Planning & Commissioning presented Report 12/00 Commissioning of Opiate Addiction Service to the Board (*copy appended to the official minute*).

Following presentation of the report a lengthy discussion took place to which the following members contributed – Dr S Barry, Cllr J Dillon Byrne, Cllr C Burke, Cllr R Shortall, Cllr Dr D Fitzpatrick, Dr J Fennell, Cllr L Butler, Mr G Maguire, Cllr C O'Connor.

Following the discussion Mr McLoughlin replied to all questions raised and the **Board adopted the report on the proposal of Cllr C O'Connor and seconded by Cllr E Byrne.**

✓ **00/11/66** **Report 13/00 Commissioning of Services for Older People**
Agenda Item No. 6

Mr. McLoughlin presented report 13/00 Commissioning of Services for Older People (*copy appended to the Official Minute*) to the members.

Following presentation of the report a discussion took place to which Cllr. E. Byrne; Cllr. C. O'Connor, Mr. J. Dolan, Dr. M. Laffoy; Dr. J. Reilly; Cllr. Dr. D. Fitzpatrick, Mr. M. Cowley and Cllr. J. Reilly contributed.

Following the discussion Mr. McLoughlin replied to all questions raised and advised the members that he will present a Draft Report on Capital Developments to the Standing Committee of the Board – Acute Hospitals & Primary Care Committee at a future date.

The Board adopted the report on the proposal of Dr. M. Laffoy and seconded by Mr. J. Fallon.

✓ 00/11/67 **Report 14/00 Commissioning of Services for
Adult Persons Out of Home**

Agenda Item No. 7

Mr. McLoughlin presented report 14/00 Commissioning of Services for Adult Persons Out of Home (*copy appended to the Official Minute*) to the members.

Following presentation of the report Cllr. C. Burke and Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne raised a number of questions on the report.

Mr. McLoughlin answered the questions raised. He outlined that the responsibility for the adult homeless lies with the Local Authorities which are the Housing Authorities. In the case of adults the responsibility of the Health Boards is to provide health and social support. In the case of children and young people the Health Boards are responsible for dealing with all aspects of homelessness..

The Board agreed and noted the report on a proposal by Cllr. C. Burke and seconded by Mr. G. Maguire.

✓ 00/11/68 **Report 15/00 Commissioning of Mental Health Services**
Agenda Item No. 8

It was decided to defer Report 15/00 to a future Board meeting. **This was agreed.**

✓ 00/11/69 **Report 16/00 Commissioning of Services for Children & Families**
Agenda Item No. 9

The Chairman suggested that Report 16/00 Commissioning of Services for Children & Families be deferred to the meeting of Continuing Care & Social Services Committee scheduled for Monday 6th November 2000 at 6.00 p.m. in Dr. Steevens' Hospital. **This was agreed.**

00/11/68 **Adoption of Service Plan 2001 – Proposed Timetable**
Agenda Item No. 10

00/11/69 **Schedule of Forthcoming Meetings**
Agenda Item No. 11

It was agreed that these two items be considered together.

The schedules as circulated were agreed on the proposal of Mr. P. Ledwidge and seconded by Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne.

00/11/70 Report from Continuing Care & Social Services Committee
Agenda Item No. 12

It was proposed by Cllr. L. Butler and seconded by Cllr. C. O'Connor that the report 08/00 Services for Older People be adopted by the Board. **This was agreed.**

00/11/71 Notices of Motion
Agenda Item No. 13

- (i) **On a proposal by Cllr. J Dillon Byrne and seconded by Cllr. C. Burke the following motion was agreed.**

“That this Authority, ERHA, acknowledges the out dated facilities of both St. Columille’s Hospital, Loughlinstown and that of St. Michael’s Hospital, Dun Laoghaire, and that in doing so agrees to prioritise investment to upgrade facilities as per their Development Plans already submitted”.

The Board noted the motion. The Chief Executive will bring a report to the Board on the matter when reports on the matter have been received from the East Coast Area Board.

- (ii) **On a proposal by Dr. K. Harkin and seconded by Dr. S. Barry the following motion was agreed.**

That this authority shall seek to have the policy of transporting hospital in-patients to external centres for the purpose of receiving methadone discontinued at the earliest opportunity.

The Chief Executive reported that he has taken the matter up with the two Area Boards in question and they are now working out the practical difficulties in drawing this problem to a conclusion.

- (ii) **On a proposal by Dr. K. Harkin and seconded by Dr. S. Barry the following motion was agreed.**

That this authority shall seek to have the sponsorship of nursing posts by stoma product manufacturers discontinued at the earliest opportunity

The Chief Executive said that he would be happy to have the position reviewed throughout the region and come back to the Board with a report.

✓ **00/11/72 Chief Executive’s Report**
Agenda Item No. 14

The Chief Executive’s Report was circulated (*copy appended to the Official Minute*).

The report dealt with the following items:-

- Winter Initiative 2000/2001
- Additional Consultant Posts
- Director of Homelessness

The Chief Executive’s Report as circulated was agreed.

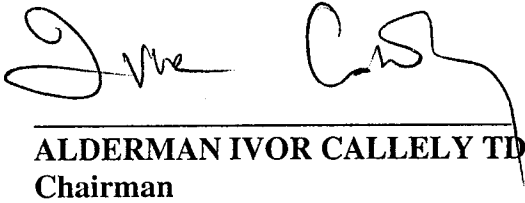
00/11/73 Date & Time of Next meeting
Agenda Item No. 15

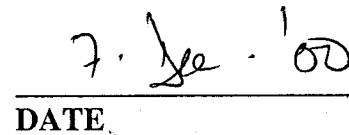
The date and time of the December monthly meeting was agreed for Monday 18th December 2000 at 19.00 hrs in Dr. Steevens' Hospital.

The meeting concluded at 9.00 p.m,

CORRECT

DONAL O SHEA
Chief Executive


ALDERMAN IVOR CALLEY TD
Chairman


DATE