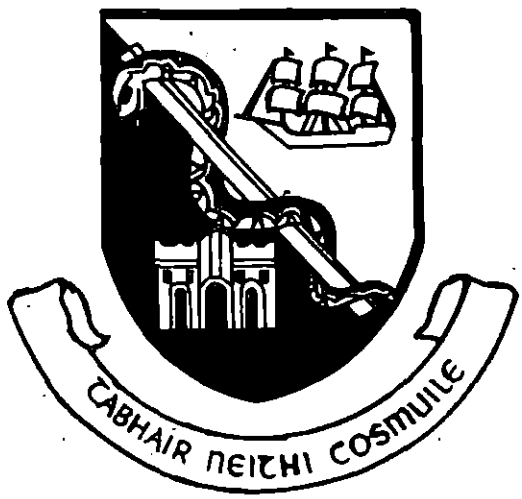
# Southern Health Board annual report 1992

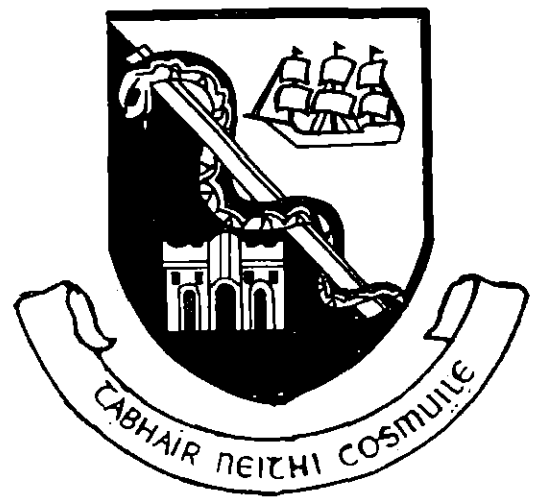
# Southern Health Board
## (Bord Slainte an Deiscirt)




# *Annual Report*

# *1992*

# Southern Health Board
## (Bord Slainte an Deiscirt)




# *Annual Report*

# *1992*

**SOUTHERN HEALTH BOARD**
**[Bord Slainte an Deiscirt]**

**Wilton Road,**
**Cork.**

**29 June 1993.**

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND EACH MEMBER OF THE BOARD**

Dear Member,

**ANNUAL REPORT 1992**

## INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report for 1992 is the third in a series which commenced in 1990 with the publication of the first Annual Report of the Board. The Reports have received a wide-ranging welcome and we are committed to their continued production. We are examining ways in which the very large amount of data can be best presented and in this respect, there are some changes in the format of the Report this year. The process of improving the content and presentation of the Reports will continue.

## REVIEW OF 1992

The level of demand for health and welfare services continued to increase in 1992 with an inevitable overrun in costs by the end of the year in attempting to match demand with finite resources. This was reflected most clearly in the steady increase in demand for acute hospital services as evidenced in the Report. In the Community Care Services, the on-going increased demand and costs related to the demand-led schemes was again a feature of the year. The Psychiatric Services witnessed further significant progress in the development of a community based service with the publication during the year of a 7 Year Development Plan. The service for persons with Mental Handicap received development funds on foot of the 7 Year Plan for that service, published in December 1991. These and other facets of the Board's activities are set out in the detailed documentation accompanying this Report.

## SOME HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR

The details of the various services, developments and changes which took place in the different areas are outlined in each section of the Report. The following events which took place during the year at either local or national level are noteworthy in their own right and merit comment here:-

- Department of Health Approval to expand E.N.T. Services, Tralee General Hospital.
- Cardiac Ambulance Service introduced.
- Completion of Report of Cork Hospitals Review Group.
- Publication of Development Plan for Services for the Physically Handicapped.
- Policy Document on Voluntary Organisations, "Framework for Caring" published.
- Appointment of first Media Liaison Consultant and publication of first staff newsletter.
- Development of Teenage Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Programme at Arbour House.
- New telephone network for Board's facilities, Cork City.
- Allocation of funds to tackle Backlog of Maintenance.
- Closure of Grey Building at Our Lady's Hospital.
- Opening of Hostel for Disturbed Teenage Boys, Cork City.
- Opening of High Support Hostel in Killarney.
- Implementation of Child Care Act.
- 7 Year Plan for Development of Services for Persons with Mental Illness published.
- Publication of Green Paper on Mental Health.
- Publication of Reports of the Inspector of Mental Hospitals [1988 - 1989].
- Conference on the Delivery of Psychiatric Services opened by Minister for Health.
- Designation of Beds in Acute Hospitals.

## STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

Following the publication of the Programme for Economic and Social Progress in January 1991, much work was undertaken in drawing up development plans for specific services in accordance with the non-pay aspects of the Programme. 7 Year Plans for the Development of Services for the Mentally Ill, Mentally Handicapped, the Elderly and the Physically Handicapped have been produced. The implementation of further elements of the Child Care Act is bringing about the need for further substantial investment in the Child Care Services. The plan for a partnership government completed at the end of 1992 emphasised the development of further aspects of the health service and provided for a special initiative to tackle hospital waiting lists. There has been much work in setting priorities and targets for other elements of the health services also, but the challenge now is to bring these plans to develop individual services into an overall strategy to develop the health service as a whole. The Minister for Health has announced his intention to produce a national health strategy and this strategy, once published, will set the framework for each Health Board to draw up an overall plan for the development of health services in each region. Interestingly, the Minister for Health has also announced his intention to introduce an Annual Report on the health services and this will be a valuable addition to the individual Reports produced by each Health Board.

## VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

Voluntary Organisations continued to expand their services and work in partnership with the Board in the provision of a wide variety of services throughout the region. The Board is conscious of the significant role played by Voluntary Organisations and had been anxious for some time to formulate a strategy to co-ordinate the activities of the various voluntary agencies. A strategy document entitled "A Framework for Caring" was published in 1992 and was unanimously adopted by the Board. The report governs the manner in which the Board liaises with Voluntary Organisations and sets out a strategy to achieve optimum delivery of care involving the Board and the Voluntary Organisations in a partnership arrangement.

## RETIREMENT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Mr. D.Q. Dudley, Chief Executive Officer, retired in April 1992, after 44 years in the Public Service and 13 years as Chief Executive Officer of the Southern Health Board. Mr. Dudley was instrumental in the many developments in the service during his period as Chief Executive Officer and made a significant contribution to national strategy on health services also.

**STAFF MEMBERS**

I wish to record my thanks to the staff of the Board for their commitment in what was again a very difficult year. Scarce resources will continue to be a feature of the health services. Despite the on-going difficult financial climate however, the staff remain enthusiastic and committed to the development of a health service which is cost effective and of high quality. It is important for all involved in the management of the Board to promote a good public image of the Board's services and to create an environment where every opportunity for improvements in the service are pursued. To my colleagues on the Management Team, I wish to record my thanks for their loyalty and advice throughout the year and finally, I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Board for their support during 1992.

Yours sincerely,

Sean Healy

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.

# SOUTHERN HEALTH BOARD
## [Bord Slainte an Deiscirt]

## ANNUAL REPORT 1992

- Contents -

# Membership of Board

**CHAIRMAN:**

Cllr. V. O'Callaghan,
Bantry Bay Hotel,
Bantry,
Co. Cork.

**VICE-CHAIRMAN:**

Dr. P. A. Murray, MB, B.CH, DPM,
Child and Family Clinic,
Lota,
Glanmire,
Co. Cork.

## APPOINTED BY CORK COUNTY COUNCIL

| | |
|---|---|
| Cllr. T. Ryan, | Ardfield, Dripsey, Co. Cork. |
| Cllr. S. O'Sullivan, | Kilva, Midleton, Co. Cork. |
| Cllr. V. O'Callaghan, (Chairman) | Bantry Bay Hotel, Wolfe Tone Sq., Bantry, Co. Cork. |
| Cllr. M. Creed, T.D. | Codrum, Macroom, Co. Cork. |
| Cllr. B. O'Keeffe, T.D., | 8 Westcliffe, Ballincollig, Co. Cork. |
| Cllr. F. Crowley, T.D. | Strand Street, Kanturk, Co. Cork. |
| Cllr. J. Roche, | Clough, Rockchapel, Co. Cork. |

## APPOINTED BY KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

| | |
|---|---|
| Cllr. B. O'Connell, | 15 Main Street, Castleisland, Co. Kerry. |
| Cllr. M. Cahill, | Rossbeigh, Glenbeigh, Co. Kerry. |
| Cllr. J. Healy-Rae, | Main Street, Kilgarvan, Co. Kerry. |
| Cllr. T. Foley, | 28 St. John's Park, Tralee, Co. Kerry. |
| Cllr. M. Spring, | 37 Racecourse Lawn, Tralee, Co. Kerry. |
| Cllr. T. Fleming, | Scartaglen Village, Farranfore, Co. Kerry. |

## APPOINTED BY CORK CORPORATION

| | |
|---|---|
| Ald. B. Allen, T.D., | 7 Mount Prospect, Shanakiel, Cork. |
| Cllr. F. Nash, | 1 Gouldings Cottages, The Glen, Cork. |
| Ald. J. Dennehy, | 'Avondale', Westside Estate, Togher, Cork. |
| Cllr. D. Wallace, | 63 Merrion Court, Montenotte, Cork. |
| Cllr. C. O'Leary, | 1 St. Rita's Avenue, Gurranabraher, Cork. |

## ELECTED BY REGISTERED MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

Mr. Sean Baker, M.C.H.; FRCSI; FRCS (Eng.) FRCE,
"Carhukeal", Bantry, Co. Cork.

Dr. C. Bredin, Consultant Physician,
Cork Regional Hospital, Wilton, Cork.

Mr. T.F. Buckley, MD, FRCS,
Cork Regional Hospital, Wilton, Cork.

Dr. John G. Corr, MB, MRCGP, LM,
Glenbrook, Co. Cork.

Dr. Patrick A. Murray, MB., B.CH., DPM, (Vice-Chairman)
Child and Family Clinic, Lota, Glanmire, Co. Cork.

Dr. Barry O'Connor,
Medical Practice, Dillons Cross, Cork.

Dr. T.C.F. O'Connor, M.B.; FRCOG,
St. Finbarr's Hospital, Douglas Road, Cork.

Dr. A.J. Stynes,
26 Templevale, Ballintemple, Cork.

## ELECTED BY REGISTERED PSYCHIATRIC NURSES

Ms. Hanora Henry,
17 Brookfield Park, The Lough, Cork.

**ELECTED BY REGISTERED NURSES**
**(other than Psychiatric Nurses)**

Ms. Mona Clancy, Public Health Nurse,
Quay Road, Youghal, Co. Cork.

**ELECTED BY REGISTERED DENTISTS**

Dr. Eoin O'Flynn, BDS,
4 Rochestown Rise, Rochestown, Cork.

**ELECTED BY REGISTERED PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS/REGISTERED DISPENSING CHEMISTS/DRUGGISTS**

Mr. Patrick Duffy, MPSI,
Marian Pharmacy, Friar's Walk, Cork.

**APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH**

Mr. D. Lyons,
Tower, Blarney, Co. Cork.

Cllr. Donal Moynihan,
Gortnascorty, Ballymakeera, Macroom, Co. Cork.

Cllr. John O'Donoghue, T.D.
14 Main Street, Caherciveen, Co. Kerry.

**MEETINGS** The Board meets on the first Monday of each month at 2.30 p.m. (unless a Bank Holiday, in which case the meeting is usually held on the Tuesday following the first Monday).

# SOUTHERN HEALTH BOARD
## Organisation of Services

The Southern Health Board covers Counties Cork and Kerry, an area of 4,700 square miles with a population of 536,894 (15 per cent of the Country's total). The Southern Health Board employs 6,300 staff. The largest service unit is Cork Regional Hospital with 600 beds. It is the main hospital for University College, Cork for clinical teaching and medical research. It provides a full range of community, regional and sub-national specialties.
The services of the Southern Health Board are provided primarily by Health Board staff. At the same time the Board has strong links with voluntary agencies and organisations which contribute to the delivery of health and welfare services.

The Southern Health Board's services are divided into three main groupings:

### Community Care Services

The Southern Health Board Region is divided into four community care areas, each with its own Director and staff; Cork City and South Cork, North Cork, West Cork and Kerry. The Southern Health Board offers a variety of protection, medical and welfare services, including immunisation, child health examinations, food hygiene and standards, and health education. Other services include dental services, eye and ear, speech therapy, chiropody, psychological, maternity, social work including child care and adoption, and services for the aged including home-nursing care. 32 per cent of the population are covered by medical cards.
Welfare services include payment of welfare allowances and others, e.g. disabled person's maintenance, rehabilitation maintainenance allowances and blind pensions.

### General Hospital Care

Under this Programme, care is provided in or at hospitals for acute cases. The Programme includes care at specialised hospitals, such as maternity hospitals. Some general hospitals now have psychiatric units in line with the recommendations of the 1984 Report, "Planning for the Future". Cork Regional Hospital and Associated Hospitals (see separate Report) was established as a separate unit of management in 1991 on the appointment of a General Manager. The remainder of the group is made up of General hospitals, District Hospitals, Orthopaedic Hospitals, Geriatric Hospitals, Welfare Homes and Ambulance Service.

### Psychiatric & Mental Handicap Services

This Programme covers the provision of services for persons with mental illness. The Service was originally based in a number of large institutions but is increasingly changing to a community base with acute care provided in a General Hospital setting. A Seven Year Plan for the Development of the Service was published in 1992.

The Programme also deals with the provision of services for persons with mental handicap. This service consists of day and residential care in facilities owned and managed by the Board and by voluntary and religious groups, either grant aided by the Board or direct funded by the Department of Health. Co-ordination of services is provided for by a system of Consultative and Planning Committees. A Seven Year Plan for the Development of the Service was published in 1991.

# SOUTHERN HEALTH BOARD
## (Bord Slainte an Deiscirt)

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

| | |
|---|---|
| **Chief Executive Officer:** | Mr. Sean Hurley,<br>B. Comm. |
| **General Manager,<br>Cork Regional Hospital<br>& Associated Hospitals:** | Mr. J.A. McNamara, |
| **Programme Manager,<br>Community Care:** | Mr. D. O'Sullivan,<br>B.A.; L.L.B. |
| **Programme Manager,<br>Psychiatric and Mental<br>Handicap Services:** | Mr. T.G. O'Dwyer,<br>B.A. (Health Admin.) |
| **Programme Manager,<br>General Hospitals:** | Mr. Patrick Madden,<br>B.A. (Public Admin.) Dip. Admin. Sc. |
| **Finance Officer:** | Ms. Raymonde O'Sullivan,<br>B. Comm; A.C.A. |
| **Personnel Officer:** | Mr. Denis Fenton,<br>BBS.; M.I.P.M. |
| **Technical Services Officer** | Mr. Joseph Casey,<br>B.E.; C.Eng. F.I.E.I. A.M.I. Hosp.E. |
| **Management Services Officer:** | Mr. John Somers |

# COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAMME

## Annual Report 1992

# COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAMME

## *INTRODUCTION*

The major objective of the Community Care Programme is to prevent ill health through activities directed at educating the individual and the community, by controlling the spread of disease and through general public health measures. The Programme is also aimed at improving the quality of life of the elderly, the handicapped and the disadvantaged. For the purpose of this report, Community Services are dealt with under the following headings :

1. Community Health Services.
2. General Medical Services.
3. Community Drugs Scheme.
4. Services for the Elderly
5. Social Services.
6. Income Maintenance Services.
7. Environmental Health Services.
8. Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages.
9. Grants to Voluntary Bodies.
10. Dental Services

# 1. COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES.

## 1.1 PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICAL SERVICES :

The Area Medical Officers continue to provide a service in their designated areas in relation to health education, the immunisation programme, developmental paediatric services, school health examinations, infectious diseases, surveillance and A.M.O.s have functions in relation to specialist Clinics, e.g. Audiology Clinic, Chest Clinic, S.T.D. Clinic in Cork City and the Child Sexual Abuse Validation Unit.

**Immunisation :**

Two major changes have taken place in the past year: the primary immunisation schedule now commences at 2 months of age and a new vaccine against Haemophillus Influenza type B (HIB) infection was introduced on 1st October 1992. All vaccines are supplied by the Southern Health Board to all General Practitioners free of charge and a fee per item of service payment is made to G.P.s for MMR and HIB vaccinations.

**Diphtheria :**

The estimated ratio of uptake of D.P.T., (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis) compared to combined D.T. (Diphtheria and Tetanus only) vaccine is 75% "3 in 1" to 25% "2 in 1". It is not possible to estimate the percentage of the population availing of this element of the vaccination programme at present, as general practitioners are not required to submit returns.

**Measles Mumps Rubella (M.M.R.) :**

A computerised system for recording M.M.R. vaccine uptake enables a precise calculation of uptake to be produced on a day to day basis.

| M.M.R. uptake at age: | Uptake |
|---|---|
| 4 years | 85.4% |
| 3.5 years | 72.5% |
| 3 years | 71.1% |
| 2.5 years | 70.4% |
| 2 years | 51.9% |
| 1.5 years | 23.8% |

The target uptake level for this immunisation is 90% at 2 years of age - it can be seen that the uptake is sub-optimal both in terms of overall uptake but more particularly in relation to the relatively late age of vaccination. Maximum medical protection is provided by the vaccine when it is administered at 15 months of age.

**H. Influenza B Vaccine :**

There has been a high level of requests for this vaccine since its introduction on 1st October, 1992. It is too early in the campaign to provide precise levels of uptake.

**Rubella :**

The school vaccination scheme for rubella in 10 to 14 year old girls has a very high response rate and uptake over the Southern Health Board is estimated at 97.9%. This programme is to be replaced by a school programme of M.M.R. for both boys and girls in the 10 to 14 year age group in 1993.

**Influenza :**

The vaccine against Influenza is recommended for key vulnerable groups of disabled persons and elderly who suffer from chronic lung or heart disease. In 1992 there was no evidence of true Influenza illness although there was some "flu-like" illness in the Community.

**Infectious Diseases:**

| INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATIONS<br>SOUTHERN HEALTH BOARD 1989 - 1992 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 |
| *Viral Meningitis* | 11 | 83 | 9 | 6 |
| *Bacillary Dysentery* | 89 | 6 | 13 | 58 |
| *Brucellosis* | 4 | 3 | 11 | 7 |
| *Bacterial Meningitis* | 31 | 19 | 39 | 49 |
| *Food Poisoning* | 3 | 29 | 3 | 2 |
| *Gastro Enteritis* | 233 | 239 | 176 | 322 |
| *Infectious Monomucleosis* | 43 | 23 | 16 | 19 |
| *Mumps* | 50 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| *Influenzal Pneumonia* | 6 | 44 | 3 | 2 |
| *Measles* | 216 | 387 | 1 | 3 |
| *Rubella* | 49 | 27 | 14 | 2 |
| *Salmonellosis* | 93 | 124 | 110 | 44 |
| *Hepatitis A* | 81 | 43 | 8 | 72 |
| *Hepatitis B.* | 3 | 0 | 2 | 1 |
| *Hepatitis Unspecified* | 31 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| *Whooping Cough* | 197 | 140 | 145 | 43 |
| *T.B.* | 94 | 86 | 109 | 86 |

The above table shows the Infectious Diseases notified to the Department of Health from the Southern Health Board for the last four years. It is encouraging to note the marked decrease in mumps, measles and rubella cases after the introduction of the M.M.R. immunisation for these diseases.

**Infoscan : Southern Communicable Disease Report :**

Infoscan is a new communicable disease report being produced in the Southern part of the country. Laboratories in Cork, Kerry, Limerick and Waterford are participating. It is produced quarterly by a committee composed of public health doctors, microbiologists and laboratory technologists and is distributed free of all general practitioners, public health doctors, hospital consultants, contributing laboratories and infection control officers.

It contains data on specific infections, based on the weekly reports from the laboratories and two or three brief articles of special local interest.

**Cork Zoonoses Committee :**

A Zoonotic disease is one that spreads from animal to man and these diseases continue to be an important public health issue. In 1991 a multidisciplinary zoonoses committee was established comprising public health doctors, local authority veterinary officers, hospital microbiologists and environmental health officers. One of the first problems that the committee addressed was the high incidence of salmonella enteriditis infection in the Cork area in 1990 and 1991. It is encouraging that the number of cases of salmonella enteriditis infection in 1992 was considerably less than the previous two years. The work of this Committee is ongoing.

**Meningococcal Meningitis Cork 1992 :**

Cork City and surrounding areas had an unusually high number of cases of meningococcal meningitis in the Spring of 1992. The cluster of cases in Cork is similar to clusters experienced in various areas in the United Kingdom over the past few years. Intensive international research to date has not explained these groupings of cases. There may be a link between an increase in the flu-like illness in the community and subsequent increase in meningococcal meningitis.

All recommended preventative actions were carried out by the Health Board public health doctors. Antibiotics and vaccination were offered to all close contacts of cases in whom it was medically indicated. The number of cases for the remainder of the year was not higher than expected.

**Haemophilus Influenza Type b Disease Cork 1987 - 1992 :**

In October 1992 a vaccination programme against Haemophilus Influenza (type b) was introduced in Ireland. A study by public health doctors in Cork found that 84 cases had been diagnosed in Cork hospitals during the last 6 years. This is an average of 14 cases a year. This organism can cause serious illness in young children, including meningitis and septicaemia (blood poisoning). Up to 10% of those children may have permanent after effects from the infection. The current vaccine has been shown in other countries to be safe and effective. It is vital that children are vaccinated against this serious and preventable disease.

## HIV/AIDS

A comprehensive five year HIV/AIDS strategy for the Southern Health Board and within the context of the report of the National AIDS Strategy Committee (April 1992) was produced in December 1992.

It is estimated that the Southern Health Board area has approximately 1/10 of the national HIV/AIDS epidemic with 94 HIV positive patients serologically identified and at least 22 cases of full AIDS. Figures available indicate that most of those infections are acquired sexually. This differs from the national trend which shows drug abuse to be the most common form of transmission. In 1992 there were a number of deaths of AIDS patients at local level and this highlighted the needs of this particular group.

The major recommendations of the Southern Health Board report concerned the resourcing of general practitioners, the appointment of a consultant in infectious disease, the provision of appropriate home nursing and a palliative care service. The present fragmentation of services was emphasised and a HIV/AIDS co-ordinator was proposed until a consultant in infectious disease is appointed. Education of key groups including the public, those likely to be involved in at risk practices and health care workers was recognised as an essential element in the Southern Health Board strategy.

### Services for the Physically Disabled :

In order to obtain up to date information on the numbers of physically disabled people in the Southern Health Board area a census was undertaken in 1992. The information obtained was used in developing the Southern Health Board Plan for the development of Services for the Physically Handicapped.

A detailed study of all adults with physical disability was carried out in the North Cork Community Care Area. The aim of this study was to determine their present use of health services and their need for further services.

A pilot project on the computerisation of a physical disability register was established in the Kerry Community Care area. This has proved very successful and provides ready access to up to date data.

### Community Ophthalmic Services :

During 1992 a full-time Community Ophthalmic Physician was appointed by the Board. This specialist provides a service for eligible persons in Cork City and County areas. This full-time post, which replaced an existing sessional arrangement, is aimed at providing a more comprehensive service.

**Drug Misuse Database :**

The Government Strategy to Prevent Drug Misuse (May 1991) recommended that a National Drug Misuse Database be established which would receive regular information from all relevant sources (treatment agencies; Gardai; Customs Service etc.) on an agreed comprehensive list of indicators of drug misuse. The Health Research Board is undertaking the establishment of the database on behalf of the Department of Health.

In 1992 the Southern Health Board database was established. This work is being co-ordinated by a specialist public health doctor. Contact has been made with all the treatment agencies in the area which have relevant client information. Data has been collected from the majority of these agencies. It will be analysed by the Health Research Board.

There is ongoing liaison between the Health Board and local Gardai and Customs Service.

Preliminary indications are that the extent and the characteristics of drug misuse in the Southern Health Board area are different than in Dublin. There appears to be no significant misuse of intravenous drugs with the attendant problems such misuse brings.

## 1.2 PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERVICE

The workload of the generalist public health nurse continued to increase in 1992. This was caused by fewer admissions to long-term care, earlier hospital discharges and the increase in average life expectancy which brings with it an increase in chronic illness and disability. In the elderly, there are a multiplicity of health problems. The public health nurse also continues with child welfare visiting and is concerned about the changing pattern in employment, role reversal, depression, poor housing, poor home management skills, poverty, single parents and family breakdown. The development of the whole area of parenting is vital, particularly where so many parents need support, education and counselling to develop and enjoy their role as parents.

The RGN service continues to be an invaluable support to the Public Health Nursing Service. Elderly patients are maintained at home who need nursing service twice and three times daily because of their dependence, often living alone. Essential twilight nursing services are delivered and support given to carers cost effectively. The RGN Service is also used to develop new services for the mentally handicapped and the young chronic sick.

Day Care is provided in a number of areas, improving the quality of life, socialisation satisfaction and self respect of the elderly.

Respite Care has been further developed in 1992 enabling carers to have much needed respite. Demand for places has continued to outstrip the supply of places, the greater need being for female patients.

**Continence Promotion:** A number of Senior Liaison and Public Health Nurses were trained in Continence Promotion in 1992. Continence Promotion Clinics have been established in a number of areas. There has been little success in attracting the adult incontinent. Attendance is mainly enuretic.

**Health Promotion and Education:** This has been undertaken in all sectors, both on a one to one basis and in groups. More resources are needed to develop and expand to meet this need.

**Hospital Liaison** has created an awareness of community services and the need to plan discharges especially when equipment or back-up services, e.g. home help has to be organised.

**Public Health Nurse Workload Statistics:**

| | Cork City & Suoth Cork | North Cork | West Cork | Kerry | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **CHILD HEALTH** | | | | | |
| First visits | 4,390 | 790 | 695 | 1,650 | 7,525 |
| Subsequent visits | 57,616 | 4,720 | 7,835 | 20,986 | 91,157 |
| **GENERAL** | | | | | |
| Home Nursing visits to persons under 65 years. | 33,278 | 9,863 | 9,510 | 29,111 | 81,762 |
| **ELDERLY** | | | | | |
| Home Nursing visits to persons over 65 years | 89,142 | 20,421 | 25,070 | 44,874 | 179,507 |
| Social/Preventative visits. | 31,843 | 13,280 | 12,791 | 28,682 | 86,596 |
| **TOTAL** | 216,269 | 49,074 | 55,901 | 125,303 | 446,547 |

# 2. GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES

Under the General Medical Services (G.M.S.) Scheme medical card holders are entitled to free General Practitioner Services together with free drugs, medicines and appliances prescribed by their doctor for themselves and their dependents. The Scheme is serviced by doctors and pharmacists who have entered into an agreement with the Board on the provision of services. As at 31st December, 1992, there were 276 doctors and 169 pharmacists participating in the Scheme in the Southern Health Board area.

A total of 266 of the General Practitioners operate under the G.M.S. contract which came into operation in 1989. The remainder (10) still operate under the old contract. Following a review of the Scheme in 1992 a further two year agreement commenced in January, 1993. An integral feature of this agreement is a commitment to the future development of general practice as outlined in the document "The Future of General Practice in Ireland". Individual drug targets for 1993 have been issued to all General Practitioners in the Scheme.

The total cost of the G.M.S. Scheme in 1992 to the Southern Health Board was £30,512,523.

The processing units for medical cards are located in Abbeycourt House, Cork and 19, Denny Street, Tralee. Details of their panels are now produced on a regular basis for General Practitioners in the General Medical Services Scheme.

The following table shows the number of people covered by medical cards at 31st December, 1991, compared with 31st December, 1992:-

TABLE 1

| | 1991 Persons Covered | 1991 % Population | 1992 Persons Covered | 1992 % Population |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cork | 130,613 | 31.87 | 132,268 | 32.27 |
| Kerry | 45,081 | 37.04 | 46,015 | 37.80 |
| TOTAL | 175,694 | 33.05 | 178,283 | 33.54 |

# GUIDELINES ON STANDARDS OF ELIGIBILITY FOR MEDICAL CARDS

Persons in receipt of one of the following Pensions, (with no other income, benefit or privilege) will normally be regarded as eligible for a Medical Card without any further assessment of means :-

1) Old Age non-contributory Pension (maximum).
2) Old Age (Care) Allowance.
3) Deserted Wives Allowance.
4) Infectious Diseases (Maintenance) Allowance.
5) Disabled Persons (Maintenance) Allowance.
6) Social Assistance Allowance for unmarried mothers (maximum).
7) Social Assistance Allowance for single women (maximum).
8) Widows (non-contributory) Allowance (maximum).
9) Orphans (non-contributory) Allowance (maximum).
10) Blind (non-contributory) Pension (maximum).
11) Supplementary Welfare Allowance.

Other persons whose gross weekly incomes do not exceed the following limits :-

| | |
|---|---|
| Single person under 66 years living alone | £ 79.50 |
| Single person aged 66 - 79 living alone | £ 86.50 |
| Single person aged 80 or over living alone | £ 90.00 |
| Single person under 66 yrs. living with family | £ 69.50 |
| Single person aged 66 - 79 living with family | £ 74.50 |
| Single person aged 80 or over living with family | £ 77.50 |
| Married couple under 66 years | £115.00 |
| Married couple where applicant is aged 66 - 79 yrs | £128.00 |
| Married couple where applicant is aged 80 or over | £134.50 |
| Allowance for each child under 16 years | £ 13.50 |
| Allowance for each child over 16 years with no income and maintained by applicant | £ 15.00 |
| Allowance for weekly housing outgoings (Rent, Mortgages, etc.) in excess of | £ 13.50 |
| Allowance for reasonable expenses, necessarily incurred in travelling to and from work (where these create undue hardship) in excess of | £ 12.00 |

Persons between the ages of 16 and 25 years who are dependent on their parents will not be regarded as eligible unless their parents are holders of a General Medical Services Card. The following are exceptions to this rule :-

1) Recipients of Disabled Persons Maintenance Allowance.
2) Persons covered by E.E.C. Regulations.
3) Persons who are working and are in receipt of an income there from persons working via FAS or serving an apprenticeship come within this category.
4) Persons between the age of 18 - 25 years who are in receipt of an allowance from the Department of Social Welfare or under the Social Welfare (Consolidation) Act, 1981.

**N.B. In the case of (3) and (4) such persons will continue to have their eligibility assessed by reference to the medical card guidelines.**

# 3. COMMUNITY DRUGS SCHEME

## 3.1 REFUND OF DRUGS SCHEME:

The purpose of this scheme is to assist financially the person whose expenditure on prescribed medical requisites in respect of self and dependants (if any) in relation to their requirements purchased from a retail Pharmacist for a specified period exceeding a specified amount as determined by Regulations.

The current regulations allow for a refund of any expenditure in excess of £90.00 incurred in any calendar quarter on the purchase of prescribed medicine through a retail pharmacist for use in that quarter by an applicant and dependants where appropriate.

The cost of claims under this scheme in 1992, amounted to £1,917,210.

## 3.2 LONG TERM ILLNESS SCHEME :

The Long Term Illness Scheme (L.T.I.) was introduced on the 1st October, 1971. The arrangement is that a person suffering from any of specified conditions was entitled to a supply, without charge of drugs, medicines and appliances for the treatment of the illness. The scheduled conditions eligible under the scheme are as follows :

Mental Illness (up to the age of 16), Mental Handicap
Phenylketonuria, Cystic Fibrosis, Spina Bifida,
Hydrocephalus, Haemophilia, Cerebral Palsy, Epilepsy,
Diabetes Mellitus and Diabetes Insipidus,
Multiple Sclerosis, Acute Leukaemia, Muscular
Dystrophies, Parkinsonism, and malformations or
abnormalities attributable to the use of drug
Thalidomide.

The total number of L.T.I. Cards held in 1992 was 7,369 and the total cost of the scheme was £1,898,905. Authorization Cards are issued by the Health Board and payments are made by the General Medical Services Payments Board on behalf of the Health Board.

## LONG-TERM ILLNESS CARDS

| Date - up to and including 31.12.92 | Cork City & South Cork | North Cork | West Cork | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mental Handicap | 255 | 64 | 11 | 330 |
| Mental Illness | 7 | - | - | 7 |
| P.K.U. | 24 | - | 3 | 27 |
| Cystic Fibrosis | 86 | 29 | 6 | 121 |
| Spina Bifida | 118 | 11 | 7 | 136 |
| Hydrocephalus | 56 | 9 | 4 | 69 |
| Cerebral Palsy | 119 | 14 | 15 | 148 |
| Haemophilia | 23 | 2 | 4 | 29 |
| Epilepsy | 1,787 | 437 | 241 | 2,465 |
| Diabetes Mellitus | 2,282 | 605 | 395 | 3,282 |
| Diabetes Insipidus | 23 | 1 | 1 | 25 |
| Multiple Sclerosis | 118 | 35 | 18 | 171 |
| Musc. Dystrophy | 20 | 4 | 2 | 26 |
| Parkinsons Disease | 188 | 49 | 223 | 460 |
| Acute Leukaemia | 49 | 14 | 10 | 73 |
| Total Number of Cards. | 5,155 | 1,274 | 940 | 7,369 |

## 3.3 DRUG COST SUBSIDISATION SCHEME :

Under this scheme, individuals who do not have a current Medical Card or Long Term Illness Board and who are certified as having a regular and continuous requirement for prescription medicines in excess of £32 per month due to a chronic medical condition and approved by the Health Board as being eligible for the Scheme will be issued with an Authorisation Card which will entitle them to receive all of their monthly prescription medicines from the Pharmacist on payment of the first £32 of the cost. Authorisation Cards are issued by the Health Boards. Payments to Pharmacists under this Scheme are made by the General Medical Services (Payments) Board. recognition is given in the Refund of Drugs Scheme for payment of the £32 made in the new Drug Subsidisation Scheme in cases were refunds are claimed for family members not eligible for inclusion therein. Payments made by the General Medical Services (Payments) Board on behalf of the Southern Health Board for year ending the 31st December, 1992 were £1,343,293 for this scheme. The number of persons covered under this Scheme at 31st December, 1992 was 4,386.

## 3.4 HARDSHIP SCHEME :

Under this Ad-Hoc Scheme the Health Board provides for the purchase of drugs prescribed for the holder of a current Medical Card and where such items are not available through the G.M.S. Scheme. Applications under the scheme are considered on hardship grounds subject to the sanction of the Director of Community Care. The expenditure on this scheme in 1992 was £35,449.

# 4. SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY - THE YEARS AHEAD

The Board's policy in relation to the provision of Services for the Elderly is based on the following :

1. To maintain elderly people in dignity and independence in their own home.

2. To restore those elderly who become ill or dependent, to independence in their own home.

3. To support the care of the elderly in the community by family and voluntary organisations.

4. To provide high quality hospital and residential care services.

In line with the Government policy on Services for the Elderly as outlined in "The Years Ahead", the report of the Working Party on Services for the Elderly, published in 1989, the Board has continued to maintain its services in line with additional funds made available.

## 4.1 HOME HELP SERVICE

The old and infirm are the largest group assisted under Home Help Scheme but Family Aids are also provided under the scheme for households who need this kind of support. A Home Help Service is also provided for the mentally and physically handicapped and for psychiatric cases who cannot cope with normal household duties. District Home Helps who work more or less on a full time basis are also employed in some areas.

In December 1992 there were 1,923 Home Helps employed in the Southern Health Board area and the expenditure for 1992 was £1,960,779. The hourly rate of pay is £1.40.

The Child Care Act 1991 proposes the expansion of the service to provide Home-makers for families at risk. This will expand the numbers of Home Helps who are providing this service considerably with consequent financial implications for the Board.

## 4.2 SPECIAL HOUSING AID FOR THE ELDERLY SCHEME

In 1982 the Government set up a Special Task Force under the Chairmanship of the Minister of State of the Department of the Environment to undertake an emergency programme to improve living conditions of old people, living alone in unfit or insanitary accommodation. This Scheme which evolved, the Special Housing Aid for the Elderly Scheme, is administered by the Health Board and is based on the Community Care Areas under the general direction of the Programme Manager, Community Care.

The scheme provides for assistance to elderly people, who reside alone and who, from their own resources are not in a position to carry out essential repairs to their residence to enable them to continue to reside in reasonable comfort. A number of methods are adopted to facilitate the carrying out of repairs under the scheme including :-

Employment of a Private Contractor.

Contribution towards cost with applicant employing own Contractor.

Assistance from Voluntary Associations.

Assistance from a Voluntary Association formed for the purpose of carrying out repairs in the house of the elderly, utilising F.A.S. resources as suggested and recommended in the guidelines relating to the Scheme issued by the Department of the Environment. This Organisation known as S.H.A.F.E. (The Special Housing Aid for the Elderly Voluntary Committee) oversee repairs carried out utilising F.A.S. resources.

The type of work done to date includes the provision of water and sanitary services, repairs to windows and doors, minor roof repairs and minor structural repairs, installation of electricity, and re-wiring of houses.

The total number of repairs completed in 1992 was 339 at a cost of £258,521.

# 5. SOCIAL SERVICES

## 5.1 SOCIAL WORK SERVICES.

The Board's Social Workers provide an advisory and case work service to families and individuals.

This involves a wide range of activities including :

1. Counselling and support services to families with social problems whose children are deemed to be at risk.

2. Supervision and counselling families who have neglected or abused their children.

3. Arrangements for reception of children into care;

   (a) On a voluntary basis under Section 55 of the Health Act 1963.

   (b) Court Orders under 1908 Childrens Act and 1991 Child Care Act.

4. Recruitment of foster parents under Boarding Out Regulations 1983.

5. Processing Adoption applications under the Adoption Act 1988.

6. Court Work.

7. Investigation of child abuse, i.e. non-accidental injury, neglect, sexual and emotional abuse.

8. Student Training.

Section 2 of the Child Care Act was implemented in November 1991 and the following sections of the Child Care Act were brought into operation in 1992:

3; 5; 6(1), (2), (5); 7; 8; 9; 10; 11; 66; 69; 72; 73; 79.

Section 74 is in operation since December 1991; it is an offence to sell solvent-based substances to children for 'glue-sniffing'. In 1991/92 additional resources for the phased implementation of the Child Care Act were provided :

A. Phasing in of Residential Group Home for Boys in Cork City.

B. Development of specialised foster care programme.

C. Development of Therapeutic Services for victims of child abuse.

D. Development of Family Support Youth Work Services.

## 5.2 FAMILY UNIT, ST. FINBARR'S HOSPITAL.

The Child Sexual Abuse Validation Clinic at St. Finbarr's Hospital has now been in operation since mid-1988. Its present complement of staff is as follows :

2 Area Medical Officers

2 Social Workers

1 Paediatric Nurse

Secretary

Child Psychiatric and Psychological Expertise is also available to the unit.

The Doctors and Social Workers involved work as 2 teams on a part-time basis and it is not considered advisable to have assessment staff working whole-time in this area.

Arrangements for the appointment of a Child Psychiatrist by the Southern Health Board are at an advanced stage and this will strengthen the expertise available to the Unit. Pending this appointment a Director of Community Care continues to provide supervision for the Unit.

The validation process carried out in the Unit requires the application of highly specialised techniques by a number of disciplines and includes elements of assessment and therapy. It is not a function of the personnel engaged at the Unit to offer therapy following the conclusion of the assessment process but the Health Board may provide therapy when considered necessary.

**Statistical Information in relation to the numbers seen at the Unit in 1990, 1991, and 1992**

| | | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Number referred | 114 | 118 | 149 |
| | | | | |
| 2. | Total Number seen | 98 | 106 | 110 |
| | Confirmed C.S.A. | 52 | 51 | 62 |
| | No C.S.A. | 30 | 32 | 30 |
| | Inclusive | 7 | 20 | 16 |
| | Alleged abusers under 16 years | 3 | 5 | 7 |
| | Medical Examinations | - | 5 | 6 |
| | Validations not yet complete | - | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | |
| 3. | Did not attend : | 16 | 12 | 30 |
| | Failure to keep appointment | 4 | 4 | 16 |
| | Parental permission refused | 5 | 4 | – |
| | Inappropriate referral | 4 | 2 | 14 |
| | Appointment not subsequently requested | 3 | 2 | – |

# 6. INCOME MAINTENANCE SERVICE.

The Health Board administers a number of schemes involving cash payments. These include the Supplementary Welfare Allowance Scheme which operates under the general direction of the Department of Social Welfare.

## 6.1 SUPPLEMENTARY WELFARE ALLOWANCE :

Payment of Supplementary Allowance is provided by the Community Welfare Officers. These payments include the following ;

- Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance.
- Rent Supplements.
- Mortgage Interest Supplements.
- Supplements for Special Needs such as Dietary Needs.
- Exceptional Needs Payments.
- Payments to meet urgent needs.
- Payments to dependants of persons affected by trade disputes.

Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance is payable to people whose means are insufficient to meet their needs and the needs of their dependants.

**The cost for 1992 was £11,918,419.**

## 6.2 FREE FUEL

The Free Fuel Scheme operates for a period of twenty six weeks each year. The 1992/93 Scheme commenced on 12th October, 1992. The weekly value of the allowance is £5.00 which is paid only from the date of application, and is limited to one allowance per household.

To qualify for a Fuel Allowance from the Health Board, a person must be in receipt of one of the following qualifying payments and satisfy the living alone condition.

- Disabled Persons Maintenance Allowance.
- Infectious Diseases Maintenance Allowance.
- Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance.

They must also satisfy the Health Board that they are unable to provide for their own heating needs.

The Main National Free Fuel Scheme is dealt with directly by the Department of Social Welfare. Eligible applicants are recipients of specified allowance from that Department.
The cost of Free Fuel Scheme to the Health Board in 1992 was £156,610.

## 6.3 BACK TO SCHOOL CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR SCHEME :

This scheme which is within the scope of the Supplementary Welfare Allowance Scheme System operated from 1st July to 30th September, 1992.

The benefit of this scheme is normally confined to dependant children whose parents or guardians are recipients of :

- Supplementary Welfare Allowance
- Social Welfare Benefits
- Social Welfare Assistance
- Disabled Persons Maintenance Allowance
- Infectious Disease Maintenance Allowance
- Family Income Supplement.

The maximum allowances payable are as follows :

| | |
|---|---|
| Child attending first level school | £35.00 |
| Child attending second level school | £50.00 |

In 1992, a link was established between this scheme and the School Book Grant Scheme operated by the Department of Education in that persons who received a Clothing and Footwear Allowance were deemed eligible for assistance under the School Book Scheme.

The cost of the Clothing and Footwear Scheme to the Health Board in 1992 was £1,204,013.

## 6.4 DISABLED PERSONS MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE.

The legal basis for payment of this allowance is Section 69 of the Health Act 1970.

The Disabled Persons (Maintenance Allowance) Regulations made under the 1970 Act specifies that the Health Board shall pay a maintenance allowance to a person who is not maintained in an institution and who by reason of a specified disability is substantially handicapped in undertaking work.
The allowance is subject to a means test but income from rehabilitative employment up to a limit of £31.20 may be disregarded.

As from 27th July, 1992, the following rates of allowance apply :

| | |
|---|---|
| Basic Personal Rate | £57.20 |
| Increase for Adult Dependant | £34.30 |
| Increase for Child Dependant | £12.50 |

In addition to the allowance, recipients of D.P.M.A. are entitled to a Free Travel Pass -issued by the Department of Social Welfare.

Subject to certain conditions, they may also be entitled to Free Electricity Allowance, Free Television Licence, Free Telephone Rental, Free Fuel Allowance and School Clothing and Footwear Allowance.

The cost to the Health Board for 1992 was £14,467,787.

## 6.5 DISABLED PERSONS REHABILITATION ALLOWANCE

The Health Board makes available services for training of Disabled Persons for employment suitable to their condition of health, and may also make arrangements with employers for placing disabled persons in suitable employment. The Board uses the services of the Placement Officers of the National Rehabilitation Board in this regard.

Training Fees are paid, and subject to means test in certain circumstances.

Rehabilitation Maintenance Allowance or Lodging Allowance is paid to Disabled Persons undergoing training.

The present rate of Rehabilitation Allowance is £69.90 per week.

The cost to the Health Board in 1992 was £327,882.

## 6.6 INFECTIOUS DISEASES MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

This allowance is payable under the Health Act 1947.

Eligible persons are those undergoing treatment for certain infectious diseases who are unable to carry on their normal occupation.

The present weekly rates applicable from 27th July, 1992, are;

| | |
|---|---|
| Personal Rate | £ 57.20 |
| Personal with dependant spouse | £100.50 |
| Increase for child dependant | £ 12.50 |

The cost to the Health Board in 1992 was £30,452.

## 6.7 BOARDED OUT CHILDRENS ALLOWANCE (FOSTER CARE)

The Health Board may make arrangements for the boarding out of children with approved families, or may have them placed in suitable institutions where the health, moral or social wellbeing of children is at risk.

These arrangements apply to children who have been abandoned by their parents, orphans, children admitted to Care by Court Order and children of parents who are unable to care or provide for them.

The cost of the allowance to the Health Board in 1992 was £746,608.

## 6.8 DOMICILIARY CARE ALLOWANCE

This allowance is paid in respect of severely physically or mentally handicapped children between the ages of two and sixteen years who are living at home and who need constant care.

In assessing eligibility only the means (if any) of the child are taken into account. Care and attention required would be substantially greater than that which would normally be required by a child of the same age and sex.

The present rate of payment is £89.50 per month.

The cost to the Health Board in 1992 was £1,494.738.

# 7. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Board employs 26 Environmental Health Officers, including five Principal and six Senior Environmental Health Officers, seventeen of which are directly employed on Health Board duties. The remaining nine are seconded to the Local Authorities on sanitary services duties.

**Food Hygiene :**

The main thrust of Environmental Health work remains the enforcement of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1950-89. Forty two prosecutions were taken due to serious non compliance with the Regulations, resulting in fines and costs totalling £9,662. The impact of fines are minimal compared to the adverse publicity as a result of newspaper reports. Complementary to the legal enforcement of Regulations are the efforts to educate and encourage a rise in hygiene standards. New courses in food hygiene are being devised for the food trade by Environmental Health Officers and will include the replacement of currently used videos with Irish made educational videos.

Food poisonings are a cause for concern and while there were no large incidents in 1992, sporadic cases continue to occur. It is the opinion of those investigating causes of cases, that lack of proper temperature control is probably the single most cause of pathogenic bacterial growth. With this in mind, refrigerated displays and stores are tested and many found to be inadequate. These will receive more attention in the coming year.

Standards of mobile food stalls continue to improve and a figure of 80% was put forward by Environmental Health Officers as the overall compliance rating.

**FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1950/89**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| a) | No. of food premises (all categories) | 6,031 |
| b) | No. of food premises registered | 2,353 |
| c) | No. of applications for registration | 320 |
| d) | No. registered during the year | 202 |
| e) | No. of inspections | 11,460 |
| f) | No. of prosecutions | 42 |
| g) | Food poisoning cases investigated | 118 |
| h) | Food complaints investigated | 201 |
| i) | No. of Foodstall licences applied for | 76 |
| j) | No. of Foodstall licences issued | 76 |

**Sampling :**

Various warnings were issued from the W.H.O. through Department of Health concerning methylisothiocyanate in Italian wines, Demotic Acid in crabmeat in Canada, Sulphur Dioxide in vegetable cereal protein, clos. botulism in tinned uncured pork on recall from Belgium, Duck pate from Netherlands. All these notifications involve Environmental Health Officers sampling such foods. Another food scare involved cucumber contaminated with aldicarb. A series of complaints came into the local offices regarding illness associated with cucumbers.

The Food Hygiene Laboratory Committee comprising of representatives of Directors of Community Care and Principal Environmental Health Officers, the Public Analyst, Consultant Bacteriologist and the Senior Medical Laboratory Technician meet on a two monthly basis. The purpose of the committee is to prepare sampling programmes and to produce an integrated annual report.

Emphasis in 1992 was on cream, sandwiches, ice cream, salads, cooked meats and other vulnerable foods. The results indicate priority areas for future sampling programmes. In 1993 emphasis will be on sampling food in the catering industry.

The Health Official Control of Foodstuffs/Regulations 1991, concentrates on places of manufacture, distribution and service. Additional staff sanctioned to undertake this work have not yet been fully appointed. The necessity of computerising of records has become very obvious.

**SALE OF FOOD & DRUGS ACT & PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD REGULATIONS**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| a) | No. of samples taken | 2,735 |
| b) | No. of samples adulterated | 111 |

**BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| a) | No. of samples taken | 3,926 |
| b) | No. unfit | None |

**Port Health :**

Changes in custom duties due to the free market have resulted in the return of duties from Customs to Health Board personnel, under International Health Regulations. Galley and flight kitchen at airport and ferry ports are inspected regularly. Samples of food and water are taken from these areas and from Kent Station. Trains' catering facilities are also inspected. Other duties include the inspection of cruisers and merchant ships.

**PORT HEALTH CONTROL**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| a) | Ships Inspected | 1,781 |
| b) | Deratting Exemption Certs. issued | 39 |
| c) | Airport inspections | 44 |
| d) | Food, Swabs and water samples | 279 |

**Pest Control :**

Health Board Institutions, hostels and some domestic houses, (depending on circumstances of occupiers) are treated for rodent infestation. Advice is always provided. County Councils and Corporation and U.D.C.'s are responsible for their own properties.

The Disinfection Department carry out fumigation duties for hospitals, preventative spraying for insect infestations and disinfection in hospitals and private homes where necessary, and safe collection and disposal of needles from immunisation clinics.

**RATS & MICE DESTRUCTION ACT 1919 AND PEST CONTROL**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| a) | Investigations | 2,014 |
| b) | Treatment carried out | 1,379 |
| c) | Notices served (informal) | 57 |
| | (formal) | 1 |

**Phytoplankton Blooms :**

These affect shellfish harvesting in the South West Coast annually, with Environmental Health Officers involved in sampling and vigilance to ensure affected shellfish are not sold.

**Sanitary Authorities :**

Nine Environmental Health Officers are seconded to Cork County Council and Corporation, and Kerry County Council. Two of these officers are seconded to Cork County Council.

**Water Supplies :**

The primary role of the Environmental Health Officer in relation to water supplies is to prevent the spread of infectious disease and improve water quality.

There were a total of 648 water samples taken in 1992 and 138 of these proved unsatisfactory. These covered individual private supplies, group schemes and public water supplies. Whilst the number which proved unsatisfactory appears quite high, one must bear in mind that poor water supplies were targeted.

A number of serious incidents were encountered during the course of the year, including a case of copper poisoning which arose from a corrosive water supply and a case of leptospirosis from drinking contaminated water from a stream. These cases were investigated and the problem dealt with.

Numerous complaints relating to water supplies were received, ranging from offal being dumped upstream of a water supply intake point to a brucellosis infected herd having access to a river, again upstream of the water intake point. All complaints were dealt with and other departments consulted where necessary, e.g. Department of Agriculture regarding the infected herd.

**Bathing Water and Swimming Pools :**

Bathing waters are monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure compliance with E.E.C. standards.

All swimming pools to which the public have access are inspected on a regular basis. This includes both Local Authority pools and pools in hotels, leisure centres, etc.

**Public Health Nuisances :**

During the course of the year 314 complaints were investigated. This involved a total of 409 calls. 105 notices were served.

Many of the complaints are channelled through the Southern Health Board as the public want redress from the Health Authority involved. However, the core legislation to deal with Public Health Nuisances dates back to the last century (Public Health (Ireland) Act, 1878) with a few additional during the intervening years.

Many prosecutions are avoided by virtue of the Local Authorities invoking their rights under Section 18 of the Local Government Sanitary Services Act, 1948, which empowers them to carry out the works to abate the nuisance and recover costs. In many instances this is the most expedient way of dealing with a Public Health Nuisance.

The Environmental Protection Agency Act 1992 increased maximum fines from the previous nominal sum of £5 to £1,000. This was a welcome improvement.

Other functions included inspections of refuse dumps and temporary dwellings, burial grounds, caravan sites, housing and planning.

**Fluoridation :**

Fluoridation committees in each Community Care Area were established at the request of the Department of Health to ensure direct liaison between Health Board Officials and Engineering Staff of the County Council. Inaugural meetings have been held and it is expected to have beneficial effects on results.

**HEALTH (FLUORIDATION OF WATER SUPPLIES)**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| a) | Samples for distillation test | 540 |
| b) | Plant inspections | None |

## EC DIRECTIVE ON THE CONTROL OF FOODSTUFFS:

During 1992 nine regulations and orders affecting food controls came into force namely:-

- Health (Food for Particular Nutritional Uses) Regulations, 1991
- Health (Official Control of Food) Regulations, 1991
- (Health Act, 1947, Amendment of Sections 54 and 61) Regulations, 1991
- (Extraction Solvents in Foodstuffs) Regulations, 1991
- Health (Official Control of Food) approved Laboratories Order 1991
- (Flavourings for use in Foodstuffs for human consumption) Regulations, 1992
- (Labelling of Additives for use in Foodstuffs) Regulations, 1992
- Health (Emulsifiers, Stabilisers, Thickening and Gelling Agents in Food)(Amendment) Regulations 1992
- Council Directive No. 89/397 on the Official Control of Foodstuffs.

The primary thrust of the new regulations is to give effect to various E.C. Directives relating to the control of foodstuffs.

The Health (Official Control of Food) Regulations 1991 is the most significant part of these important new controls and relates to E.C. Directive No. 89/397 which is aimed at completion of the Common Internal Market for food through the creation of uniform food controls across the community. The object is to ensure mutual confidence between member states in each others food control systems. This is seen as being particularly important with the elimination of frontier controls. Statistical returns will be required to be forwarded each year to the E.C. in Brussels who will monitor each country's food control systems by reference to these statistics and through periodic visits by officials of the commission. The new regulations envisage a more programmed system of food inspection and sampling than heretofore at all stages of production and supply whether the foodstuffs are designed for the domestic or export market.

Inspections must now cover all stages of production, manufacture, import into the community, processing, storage, transport, distribution and trade and includes such matters as sampling and analysis, staff hygiene, examination of documentary material and any verification systems set up. The raw materials, ingredients, the cleaning and maintenance products, the process used for the manufacture of foodstuffs, preserving methods etc. will all be subject to inspection.

The new regulations are most comprehensive and provide considerably greater scope and legal backing to hygiene and quality control at all stages of production, manufacture, import, processing, storage, transport, distribution and trade.

The European Communities (Health Act 1947, Amendment of Sections 54 and 61) Regulations 1991 have increased the fines for breaches of food legislation considerably. The maximum fine is now £1,000 and/or a maximum prison term of six months.

This increase in penalties is to be welcomed as the existing penalties have never been altered since the enactment of the original 1947 Health Act.

## HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMMES:

Allied to their role as Enforcement Officers, Environmental Health Officers have long been involved in the promotion of better health and improving hygiene standards. This is done by way of formal certificate courses such as the sixteen hour course in the principle and practice of food hygiene for food workers, seminars etc. Educational talks are also given to various interested bodies such as Teagasc, I.C.A. Guilds etc. who frequently request such presentation from the Environmental Health Officers.

## FOOD HYGIENE EDUCATION LECUTURES: 82

### CORK CORPORATION - VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

| | Butchers and Pork Butchers and Poulterers | Premises for manufacture or processing of food. | Wholesale Food Premise | Stalls Including Mobile Vehicles | Retail Food Premises not listed in previous columns. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inspections | 1,174 | 89 | 364 | 1,138 | - |
| Prosecutions | - | - | - | - | - |

### CORK COUNTY COUNCIL - VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

| NUMBER OF PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES IN EACH AREA | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | North Cork | South Cork | West Cork |
| Inspections | 3,500 | 5,300 | 4,350 |
| Premises | 27 | 25 | 21 |
| **TOTAL NUMBER OF PREMISES AT PRESENT = 73** | | | |

| BUTCHERS/POULTRY PROCESSING/BACON PROCESSING | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | North Cork | South Cork | West Cork |
| Inspections | 320 | 1,034 | 580 |
| Premises | 26 | 147 | 62 |

## INTOXICATING LIQUOR ACT

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| a) | Inspections | 359 |
| b) | Notices served | 120 |

## POISONS REGULATIONS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| a) | Inspections | 252 |
| b) | No. of licences issues | 36 |

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES REGULATIONS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| a) | Disinfection | 190 |
| b) | Disinfestations | 52 |

## LABELLING REGULATIONS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| a) | No. of inspections | 3,880 |
| b) | No. of notices served | 372 |

## TOBACCO PRODUCTS REGULATIONS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| a) | No. of inspections | 2,000 |
| b) | No. of notices served | 327 |

# 8. REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES.

The Southern Health Board has important statutory functions in relation to the registration of births, deaths and marriages. An Act of Parliament passed in 1983 provided for the registration of births and deaths as from 1st January, 1864. The system established in 1863 remains largely unaltered up to the present day.

**Number of registrations in Southern Health Board**

| | Kerry | Cork | Cork City | South Cork | North Cork | West Cork | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total no. of births registered in the Board's area** | | | | | | | |
| 1990 | 1,288 | 7,113 | 7,050 | 13 | 18 | 32 | 8,401 |
| 1991 | 1,245 | 6,965 | 6,901 | 13 | 15 | 26 | 8,210 |
| 1992 | 1,127 | 6,939 | 6,889 | 15 | 9 | 26 | 8,036 |
| **Total no. of deaths registered in the Board's area** | | | | | | | |
| 1990 | 1,388 | 3,906 | 2,063 | 650 | 673 | 520 | 5,294 |
| 1991 | 1,322 | 4,006 | 2,042 | 687 | 707 | 570 | 5,328 |
| 1992 | 1,446 | 3,736 | 1,873 | 642 | 663 | 558 | 5,182 |
| **Total no. of marriages registered in the Board's area** | | | | | | | |
| 1990 | 640 | 2,092 | 891 | 604 | 319 | 278 | 2,732 |
| 1991 | 656 | 1,830 | 681 | 557 | 344 | 248 | 2,486 |
| 1992 | 598 | 2,021 | 856 | 594 | 317 | 254 | 2,619 |

**Total civil marriages in Cork and Kerry:**

| 1990 | 1991 | 1992 |
|---|---|---|
| 63 | 54 | 62 |

# 9. GRANTS TO VOLUNTARY BODIES

Grants to Voluntary Bodies are paid, for the most part, under Section 65 of the Health Act 1953.

Voluntary Organisations involved in providing health and welfare services multi-faceted. They include religious organisations, lay bodies and individuals giving some of their time to serving the needs of the Community. The working relationships in the Board's area focuses mainly on the Community Workers area, Administrator, Director of Community Care and Medical Officer for Health. The other form of voluntary group consultation is that provided by the Community Care Standing Committee. All Voluntary Groups, grant-aided by the Board within the local area, are invited to attend the meeting where they give an account of their activities, highlighting specific areas of need if necessary.

The services provided by Voluntary Groups range from services for specific interest groups to mutual aid and support groups e.g. pre-school groups. The Voluntary sector promotes active citizenship via service provision, publicity and fundraising.

In 1992 268 Voluntary Organisations were assisted by the Board by way of Section 65 Grants at a cost of £883,466.

**GRANT AID TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN 1992**

| | No. of Groups | Total Grant £ |
|---|---|---|
| Care of the Elderly | 119 | 227,738 |
| Pre-Schools/Care of Children | 75 | 199,675 |
| Youth Services | 3 | 31,920 |
| Family Support Services | 19 | 126,710 |
| Combined Services | 8 | 36,400 |
| Welfare | 2 | 4,000 |
| Traveller Groups | 5 | 15,300 |
| Physical/Mental Handicap | 18 | 148,900 |
| Health Education | 4 | 43,859 |
| Addiction | 3 | 40,800 |
| Advice Groups | 5 | 5,764 |
| Other | 7 | 2,400 |
| **TOTAL** | **268** | **883,466** |

## 9.1 COMMUNITY WORK

The Southern Health Board currently employs eight Community Workers under the Community Care Programme. Created by the Department of Health in 1977 the functions of Community Work include :

1. To promote, maintain and develop the potential of voluntary groups who are promoting or providing social services.

2. To develop and maintain liaison between these groups and relevant statutory agencies.

3. To assess needs and advise on priorities.

Each Community Worker is involved with enabling and facilitating groups to establish, develop and manage community based services in relation to

A. Care of the elderly e.g. meals, day centres, chiropody, visitation.

B. Family support services e.g. Community Play Groups, Parenting Groups, Creche.

Different Community Care Areas have expressed individual needs and accordingly some Community Workers are involved in the following areas of work.

C. Youth e.g. Training programme, neighbourhood projects.

D. Travellers e.g. facilitating settlement and integration.

E. Community Development e.g. work with projects in liaison with the Department of Social Welfare, Muintir na Tire, European Community funded initiatives for women and socially disadvantaged groups.

During 1992 the Board gave positive recognition to the impressive and innovative work of Voluntary Organisations through its adoption of - A FRAMEWORK FOR CARING (March 1992). This document affirms the vital role of the community and voluntary sector in establishing an in integrated approach to health and welfare. This development is in line with National and European Community Policy. The policy document advocates the involvement and support of the Community in the Hospital and Psychiatric Service Programme as well as in the Community Care Programme. Community Workers, with expertise in development and preventive work will play an important role in this.

# 10. DENTAL SERVICES

## 10.1 Orthodontic Services

The provision of orthodontic treatment is governed by Department of Health Guidelines. This policy means that only cases which are well within the competence of the General Dental Practitioner will be taken by the Health Board staff.

The process of screening persons on the waiting list by the Consultant Orthodontist to validate the number of children requiring or seeking treatment now as compared to the time they were originally placed on the lists.

The specialist Orthodontic Service is at present being provided by two private Orthodontists who work on a sessional basis and a fulltime consultant was recruited to the Board's service in 1991.

The total number of persons on the waiting list for orthodontic treatment at 31st December, 1992 was 449. Awaiting assessment was 649.

**Adult Services:**

In 1992 the special provision for the development of routine dental services for adults was continued. The total number of attendances for treatment in the Board's area was 18,900.

**National School Children:**

The priority of the Board is to ensure that all children leaving national school are dentally fit. The arrangement is that priority is given to children in first, third and sixth classes. Emergencies are treated on demand. The service comprises:

(a) Class screening to detect dental disease.
(b) Treatment of disease.
(c) Preventative programmes.

The total number of attendances for treatment in the Board's area during 1992 was 55,861.

**Fluoridation:**

Fluoridated water supplies are a major factor in the prevention of dental carries and the Board received £9,500 from the Department of Health for new fluoridation projects in 1992.

# CORK REGIONAL HOSPITAL
# And
# ASSOCIATED HOSPITALS

## STATISTICAL REPORT 1992

# *SOUTHERN HEALTH BOARD*
# CORK REGIONAL AND ASSOCIATED HOSPITALS

The final out-turn of expenditure for 1992 was £54.197m representing an excess over budget of £1.331m. In 1992 the Board approved a strategy designed to address this underlying level of over-expenditure. The detailed measures approved by the Board have been implemented with effect from the last quarter of 1992.

In 1992 the management team for the Cork Regional Hospital was recruited and this structure is now functioning as a pilot site nationally.

One of the key objectives of the management team is the development of structures designed to involve Consultants in a meaningful way in the management process. To this end, Cork Regional Hospital has been chosen as a pilot site nationally for the development of structures which will meet this objective. It is expected that this work will be ongoing over the next few years.

Much has already been achieved in the last few years as a direct result of closer working relationships between all staff in the hospital and this will continue to be the basis for management of the hospital in the future.

In 1992 all hospitals in the group had beds designated by the Minister for Health as private or semi-private beds and this has provided the group with considerable opportunity for increasing income and re-investment in patient services and facilities.

In Cork Regional Hospital 62 of the 84 beds designated were located in a dedicated floor with the co-operation of all staff in the hospital.

The Kenny report was published in 1992 and addressed priorities for the development of acute hospital services in Cork. The report is now with the Minister for Health and will be debated publicly in the coming months.

Following on the publication of the Kenny report, Comhairle na n-Ospideal have commenced a study into the consultant manpower level in the Southern Health Board area. This work will be accelerated over the coming 12 months and will effectively necessitate the development of a strategic plan for the services recognising the future role of hospitals.

Work on case mix costings continued in 1992 when Cork Regional Hospital was selected as one of three pilot sites nationally for the development of costing systems which will ultimately allow for the funding of hospitals on the basis of output and case mix adjusted workload.

In 1992 the future development of obstetric services was addressed by the management team and on the basis of service and financial considerations, Cork Regional Hospital is the preferred site. It is to be hoped - in the interests of obstetric services in Cork - that this recommendation will be implemented by the Minister and that a centre of excellence can be developed for obstetrics in Cork.

Mallow Hospital underwent considerable capital development in 1992 with the opening of a new Accident Unit and extensive development on the new Out-Patients department. These developments will continue in 1993.

In 1992 detailed planning was undertaken in relation to upgrading of theatre facilities in St. Mary's Orthopaedic Hospital and the provision of additional theatre/ICU facilities in Cork Regional Hospital. It is hoped that work on these projects will commence in 1993.

A total of £707,000 was invested in capital projects throughout the hospital group in 1992 and shortcomings in equipment will continue to be addressed in our strategy for 1993.

T. McNAMARA
A/GENERAL MANAGER

CORK REGIONAL HOSPITAL
**3 May 1993**

# CORK REGIONAL HOSPITAL

## STATISTICAL REPORT 1992

# Cork Regional Hospital :
## BED COMPLEMENT

| Type of Bed | Number |
|---|---|
| 7 Day Beds | 489 |
| 5 Day Beds | 55 |
| Day Beds (Adult) | 12 |
| Day Beds (Paediatric) | 6 |
| **TOTAL** | **562** |

The following additional beds are available at the hospital :

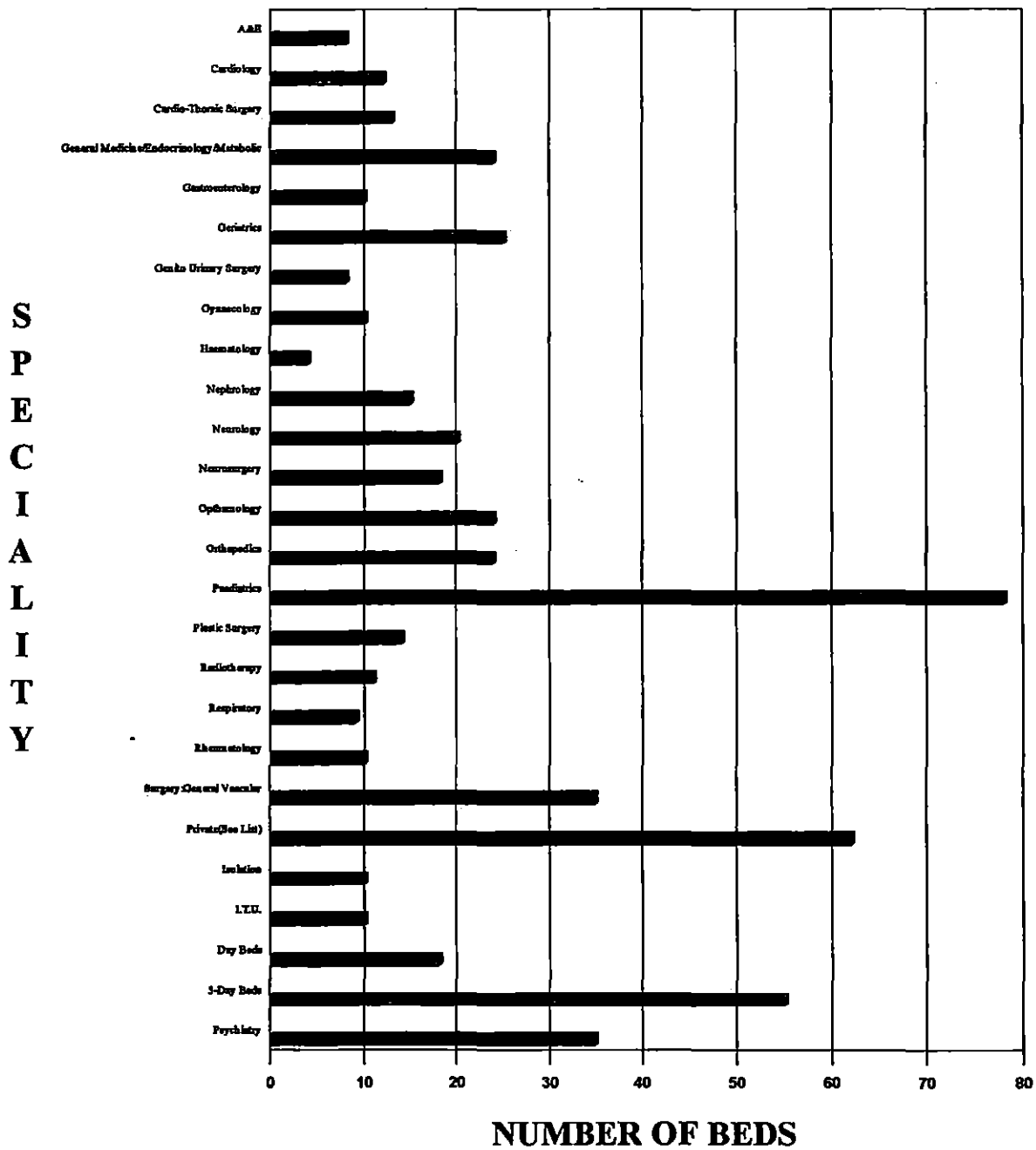
| Location of Bed | Number Of Beds |
|---|---|
| Patients Hostel | 12 |
| Dialysis Unit | 6 |
| G.I. Recovery | 4 |
| **Total** | **22** |

32 Beds remain closed at the hospital :

Ward GA : 17

Paychiatric Unit : 15

# BED COMPLEMENT 1992



| BED COMPLEMENT 1992 | |
|---|---|
| **Specialty** | **Beds** |
| A & E | 8 |
| Cardiology | 12 |
| Cardio-Thoracic Surgery | 13 |
| General Medicine/Endocrinology/Metabolic | 24 |
| Gastroenterology | 10 |
| Geriatrics | 25 |
| Genito Urinary Surgery | 8 |
| Gynaecology | 10 |
| Haematology | 4 |
| Nephrology | 15 |
| Neurology | 20 |
| Neurosurgery | 18 |
| Ophthalmology | 24 |
| Orthopaedics | 24 |
| Paediatrics | 78 |
| Plastic Surgery | 14 |
| Radiotherapy | 11 |
| Respiratory | 9 |
| Rheumatology | 10 |
| Surgery: General-Vascular | 35 |
| Private (see attached list) | 62 |
| Isolation | 10 |
| I.T.U. | 10 |
| Day Beds | 18 |
| 5-Day Beds | 55 |
| Psychiatry | 35 |
| **TOTAL** | **562** |

# LIST OF PRIVATE BEDS:

Private Beds 62 : Wards 2A and 2B

**Private Medical - 31 Beds**

Cardiology
Gastro-Enterology
Nephrology
Rheumatology
Med/Endocrine
Metabolic
Respiratory
Haematology
Neurology

**Private Surgery - 31 Beds**

Gynaecology
General Surgery
Neurosurgery
Cardio-Thoracic
Urology
Plastic Surgery
Orthopaedics
Radiotherapy

Other Locations- 22 Beds

| IN-PATIENT ACTIVITY ANALYSIS, 1992 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Specialty** | **Patients treated** | **In-patient days** | **Duration of stay In Days** |
| Cardiology | 1,601 | 7,515 | 4.7 |
| Cardiac Surgery | 372 | 4,311 | 11.6 |
| Dental | 117 | 332 | 2.8 |
| Endocrinology | 14 | 54 | 3.9 |
| Gastroenterology | 388 | 2,642 | 6.8 |
| Geriatric Medicine | 1,290 | 8,383 | 6.5 |
| Genito-Urinary | 672 | 3,270 | 4.9 |
| Gynaecology | 848 | 4,084 | 4.8 |
| Haematology | 717 | 3,871 | 5.4 |
| Medicine | 2,356 | 17,500 | 7.3 |
| Metabolic | 138 | 1,088 | 7.9 |
| Nephrology | 490 | 6,046 | 12.0 |
| Neurology | 1,886 | 14,211 | 7.5 |
| Neurosurgery | 1,022 | 8,490 | 8.3 |
| Ophthalmology | 1,427 | 7,231 | 5.1 |
| Orthopaedics | 2,954 | 15,783 | 5.3 |
| Paediatrics | 2,526 | 11,466 | 4.5 |
| Pain Relief | 273 | 304 | 1.1 |
| Plastic Surgery | 3,348 | 11,193 | 3.3 |
| Psychiatry | 607 | 13,954 | 23.0 |
| Radiotherapy | 954 | 5,505 | 5.8 |
| Respiratory | 612 | 3,727 | 6.1 |
| Rheumatology | 545 | 4,283 | 7.9 |
| Surgery | 3,006 | 20,026 | 6.7 |
| Thoracic | 126 | 1,226 | 9.7 |
| Vascular | 72 | 463 | 6.4 |
| Accident & Emergency | 21 | 40 | 1.9 |
| **TOTAL** | **28,382** | **176,998** | **6.2** |

| PATIENTS TREATED | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Specialty** | **1991** | **1992** |
| Cardiology | 1,520 | 1,601 |
| Cardiac Surgery | 370 | 372 |
| Dental | 143 | 117 |
| Endocrinology | 28 | 14 |
| Gastroenterology | 441 | 388 |
| Geriatric Medicine | 1,229 | 1,290 |
| Genito-Urinary | 781 | 672 |
| Gynaecology | 902 | 848 |
| Haematology | 632 | 717 |
| General Medicine | 2,359 | 2,356 |
| Metabolic | 214 | 138 |
| Nephrology | 449 | 490 |
| Neuroloogy | 1,860 | 1,886 |
| Neurosurgery | 1,082 | 1,022 |
| Ophthalmology | 1,392 | 1,427 |
| Orthopaedics | 3,167 | 2,954 |
| Paediatrics | 2,566 | 2,526 |
| Pain Relief | 279 | 273 |
| Plastic Surgery | 3,344 | 3,348 |
| Psychiatry | 644 | 607 |
| Radiotherapy | 786 | 954 |
| Respiratory | 477 | 612 |
| Rheumatology | 538 | 545 |
| General Surgery | 2,862 | 3,006 |
| Thoracic | 85 | 126 |
| Vascular | 174 | 72 |
| Accident & Emergency | - | 21 |
| **Total** | **28,324** | **28,382** |

| IN-PATIENT DAYS | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Specialty** | **1991** | **1992** |
| Cardiology | 7,069 | 7,515 |
| Cardiac Surgery | 3,949 | 4,311 |
| Dental | 376 | 332 |
| Endocrinology | 98 | 54 |
| Gastroenterology | 2,673 | 2,642 |
| Geriatric Medicine | 7,723 | 8,383 |
| Genito-Urinary | 4,462 | 3,270 |
| Gynaecology | 3,859 | 4,084 |
| Haematology | 3,387 | 3,871 |
| General Medicine | 19,256 | 17,500 |
| Metabolic | 1,542 | 1,088 |
| Nephrology | 4,596 | 6,046 |
| Neurology | 12,049 | 14,211 |
| Neurosurgery | 8,100 | 8,490 |
| Ophthalmology | 7,753 | 7,231 |
| Orthopaedics | 16,767 | 15,783 |
| Paediatrics | 12,490 | 11,466 |
| Pain Relief | 309 | 304 |
| Plastic Surgery | 11,716 | 11,193 |
| Psychiatry | 14,950 | 13,954 |
| Radiotherapy | 4,805 | 5,505 |
| Respiratory | 2,921 | 3,727 |
| Rheumatology | 4,374 | 4,283 |
| General Surgery | 18,705 | 20,026 |
| Thoracic | 866 | 1,226 |
| Vascular | 830 | 463 |
| Accident & Emergency | - | 40 |
| **TOTAL** | **175,625** | **176,998** |

| AVERAGE DURATION OF STAY | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Specialty** | **1991 (Days)** | **1992 (Days)** |
| Cardiology | 4.7 | 4.7 |
| Cardiac Surgery | 10.7 | 11.6 |
| Dental | 2.6 | 2.8 |
| Endocrinology | 3.5 | 3.9 |
| Gastroenterology | 6.1 | 6.8 |
| Geriatric Medicine | 6.3 | 6.5 |
| Genito-Urinary | 5.7 | 4.9 |
| Gynaecology | 4.3 | 4.8 |
| Haematology | 5.4 | 5.4 |
| General Medicine | 8.2 | 7.3 |
| Metabolic | 7.2 | 7.9 |
| Nephrology | 10.2 | 12.0 |
| Neurology | 6.5 | 7.5 |
| Neurosurgery | 7.5 | 8.3 |
| Ophthalmology | 5.6 | 5.1 |
| Orthopaedics | 5.3 | 5.3 |
| Paediatrics | 4.9 | 4.5 |
| Pain Relief | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Plastic Surgery | 3.5 | 3.3 |
| Psychiatry | 23.2 | 23.0 |
| Radiotherapy | 6.1 | 5.8 |
| Respiratory | 6.1 | 6.1 |
| Rheumatology | 8.1 | 7.9 |
| General Surgery | 6.5 | 6.7 |
| Thoracic | 10.2 | 9.7 |
| Vascular | 4.8 | 6.4 |
| Accident & Emergency | - | 1.9 |
| **Hospital Average:** | **6.2** | **6.2** |

| DAY CASES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Specialty** | **1991** | **1992** |
| General Medicine | 1,964 | 1,321 |
| Haematology | 623 | 722 |
| Radiotherapy | 172 | 347 |
| Gastroenterology | 242 | 116 |
| Cardiology | 20 | 8 |
| Respiratory | 51 | 76 |
| Neurology | 24 | 52 |
| Rheumatology | 60 | 44 |
| General Surgery | 471 | 552 |
| Plastic Surgery | 115 | 111 |
| Orthopaedics | 134 | 111 |
| Urology | 7 | 37 |
| Cardio-Thoracic | 6 | 7 |
| Pain Relief | 123 | 37 |
| Ophthalmic | 97 | 94 |
| Gynaecology | 4 | 6 |
| Paediatrics | 2,990 | 2,682 |
| Neurosurgery | 5 | 2 |
| Psychiatry | 2,395 | 2,317 |
| Vascular | - | - |
| Dental | 2 | 1 |
| Gastroenterology | *554 | 566 |
| **TOTAL** | **9,505** | **9,209** |
| ***not included in total.** | | |

| ACCIDENT & EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| Number of new patients | 37,390 | 39,620 |
| Total attendances | 43,534 | 45,576 |
| Average attendance per patient | 1.16 | 1.15 |
| Number of patients admitted | 8,610 | 8,854 |

| DEPARTMENT OF RADIOLOGY | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | **1991** | **1992** |
| 1. | Total number of examinations | 101,238 | 101,709 |
| 2. | Source of referral of patients: | | |
| | - In-Patients | 25,114 | 23,683 |
| | - Out-Patients | 23,229 | 24,065 |
| | - A & E Patients | 27,943 | 27,919 |
| | - G.P. Patients | 4,574 | 5,349 |
| | **Total Number of Patients** | **80,860** | **81,016** |

| LABORATORY SERVICE | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Department** | **Total Number Of Specimens** | |
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| Bacteriology | 142,832 | 149,337 |
| Biochemistry * | 239,845 | 255,851 |
| Haematology * | 321,365 | 338,318 |
| Histopathology | 32,052 | 33,460 |
| Blood Bank | 33,313 | 35,203 |
| **TOTAL** | **769,407** | **812,169** |
| *** 1991 total specimens also includes On-Call for relevant Labs.** | | |

| OUT-PATIENTS DEPARTMENT | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| New patients | 20,391 | 19,850 |
| Total attendances | 95,356 | 96,491 |

| RADIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| New patients | 1,463 | 1,609 |
| Total attendances | 4,397 | 4,769 |

| OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| In-Patients | 473 | 567 |
| Number of treatments | 3,508 | 3,681 |
| Out-Patients | 866 | 1,025 |
| Number of treatments | 2,810 | 3,171 |

| CLINICAL NEUROPHYSIOLOGY | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| EEG | 2,300 | 1,918 |
| EMG | 723 | 631 |
| VEP's | 151 | 181 |
| BAEP's | 40 | 38 |
| Ambulatory EEG | 69 | 57 |
| Spinal Monitoring | 5 | 5 |
| **Total** | **3,288** | **2,825** |

| PHLEBOTOMY * | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Out-Patients | In-Patients |
| Clinics | 15032 | |
| P.R. Clinic | 2479 | |
| Chemotherapy and Radiotherapy | 1118 | |
| P.P. | 1223 | |
| G.P. patients | 382 | |
| St. Finbarr's Hospital | 49 | |
| Ward G.F. | 848 | |
| Eye Unit | 123 | |
| Others | 2039 | |
| Child Cardiology | 58 | |
| Accident and Emergency Ward | 193 | |
| E.C.G. | 4167 | 6565 |
| Wards | | 20318 |
| * Figures Maintained from 10-6-92 onwards. | | |

| PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT | | |
|---|---|---|
| Out-Patients Department | 11,245 patients | |
| Ward Work | Average of 105 patients per Day | |
| Gymnasiums | **Inpatients** | **Outpatients** |
| | 3,942 | 1,544 |

# ST. FINBARR'S HOSPITAL

## STATISTICAL REPORT 1992

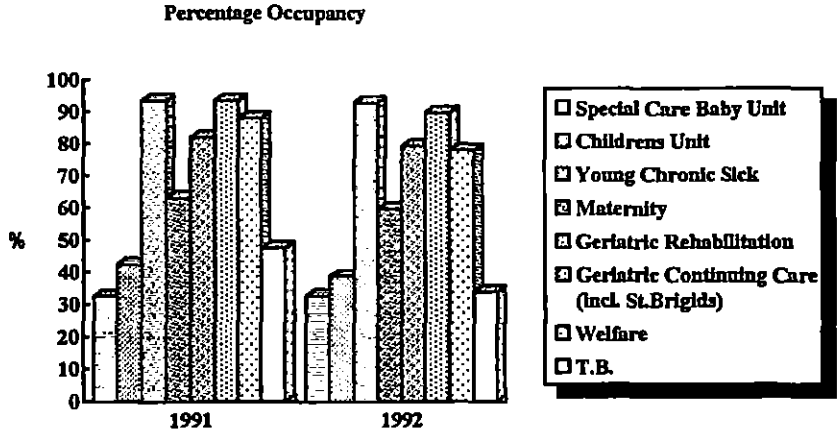
| Bed Complement | | |
|---|---|---|
| **A. ACUTE** | | |
| Obstetrics | 65 | (62 in use at present) |
| Special Care Baby Unit | 19 | (Beds + Cots) |
| T.B. | 7 | |
| Childrens Unit | 42 | |
| **Sub-Total** | **133** | |
| **B. LONG-STAY** | | |
| Psycho-Geriatric | 66 | (Transferred from Our Lady's) |
| Geriatric Rehabilitatiion | 80 | |
| Long-Stay | 123 | |
| Welfare | 17 | |
| Young Chronic Sick | 25 | |
| **Sub-Total** | **311** | |
| **TOTAL** | **444** | |

| ST. FINBARR'S HOSPITAL<br>ADMISSIONS | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Category** | **1991** | **1992** |
| Special Care Baby Unit | 213 | 230 |
| Childrens Unit | 683 | 726 |
| Young Chronic Sick | 9 | 6 |
| Maternity | 2656 | 2580 |
| Geriatric Rehabilitation | 725 | 769 |
| Geriatric Long-Stay | 34* | 48* |
| Welfare Blind | - | - |
| T.B. Unit | 45 | 22 |
| * **Transfers from Geriatric Rehabilitation Unit and Welfare Unit.** | | |

**IN-PATIENT DAYS**

| **Category** | **1991** | **1992** |
|---|---|---|
| Special Care Baby Unit | 2229 | 2273 |
| Childrens Unit | 6461 | 5920 |
| Young Chronic Sick | 8190 | 8492 |
| Maternity | 13160 | 12444 |
| Geriatric Rehabilitation | 23974 | 23175 |
| Geriatric Long-Stay | 49898 | 42278 |
| Welfare Blind | 6410 | 4861 |
| T.B. Unit | 1212 | 869 |
| St Brigid's Psycho-Geriatric | | 5526 |

| AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY | | |
|---|---|---|
| CATEGORY | 1991 | 1992 |
| Special Care Baby Unit | 10.5 | 9.8 |
| Childrens Unit | 9.5 | 8.1 |
| Maternity | 4.95 | 4.82 |
| Geriatric Rehabilitation | 33.1 | 30.1 |
| T.B. Unit | 26.9 | 39.5 |




| PERCENTAGE OCCUPANCY | | |
|---|---|---|
| CATEGORY | 1991 | 1992 |
| Special Care Baby Unit | 32.1 | 32.68 |
| Childrens Unit | 42.2 | 38.51 |
| Young Chronic Sick | 93.5 | 92.81 |
| Maternity | 63.2 | 59.64 |
| Geriatric Rehabilitation | 82.1 | 79.15 |
| Geriatric Continuing Care (incl. St Brigids) | 93.6 | 89.46 |
| Welfare | 87.8* | 78.13 |
| T.B. | 47.4 | 33.92 |
| *** Number of welfare places reduced to 17 when the Unit moved to Block 2 in April, 1991.** | | |

| MATERNITY UNIT | | |
|---|---|---|
| CATEGORY | 1991 | 1992 |
| Births | 1669 | 1615 |

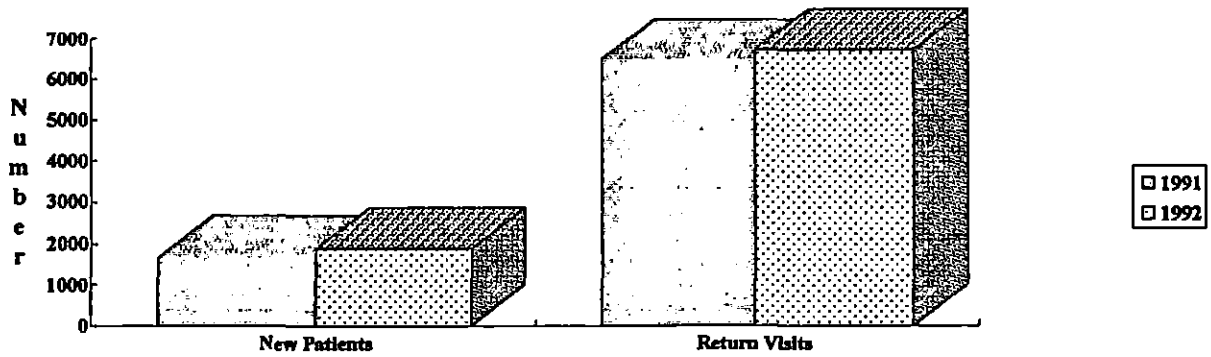
| X-RAY DEPARTMENT | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 |
| Total Number of X-Ray Examinations | 1149 | 1122 |
| Total Number of Patients | 895 | 815 |
| Total No.of Ultrasound Examinations | 5380 | 5556 |
| On-Call Examinations | 185 | 189 |
| Portable Examinations | 360 | 276 |

| GERIATRIC DAY HOSPITAL | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Year | New Patients | Return Visits | Total |
| 1991 | 135 | 2041 | 2176 |
| 1992 | 208 | 2230 | 2438 |

| DEATHS | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Under 16 Yrs. | 17 - 65 Yrs. | Over 65 Yrs. |
| 1991 | 170 | 7 | 1 | 162 |
| 1992 | 184 | 8 | - | 176 |

| OUT-PATIENTS | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CATEGORY | | 1991 | 1992 |
| Gastroenteritis: | New | 154 | 149 |
| | Return | 1016 | 1012 |
| | Total | 1170 | 1161 |
| Mal-Absorption: | New | 86 | 72 |
| | Return | 745 | 668 |
| | Total | 831 | 740 |
| Ante-Natal | New | 1170 | 1314 |
| | Return | 3460 | 3757 |
| | Total | 4630 | 5071 |
| Cystic Fibrosis: | New | - | - |
| | Return | 22 | 13 |
| | Total | 22 | 13 |
| Paediatric at Risk: | New | 105 | 94 |
| | Return | 675 | 620 |
| | Total | 780 | 714 |
| Colposcopy: | New | 167 | 243 |
| | Return | 580 | 671 |
| | Total | 747 | 914 |
| Miscarriage* | New | 6 | 9 |
| | Return | 1 | - |
| | Total | 7 | 9 |
| * Special clinic for counselling women who had miscarriages commenced in June, 1991 | | | |

# TOTAL PATIENTS




| TOTALS: | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Year: | New Patients | Return Visits | Total |
| 1991 | 1688 | 6499 | 8187 |
| 1992 | 1881 | 6744 | 8625 |

| GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF BIRTHS | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | **1991** | **1992** |
| **CITY** | Cork | 945 | 913 |
| **SOUTH CORK** | Bandon | 53 | 52 |
| | Macroom | 50 | 46 |
| | Cobh | 61 | 46 |
| | Youghal | 36 | 58 |
| | Carrigaline/C'haven | 36 | 34 |
| | Midleton | 73 | 76 |
| | Kinsale | 26 | 21 |
| **NORTH CORK** | Buttevant/Doneraile | 13 | 9 |
| | Mallow | 56 | 58 |
| | Fermoy | 61 | 62 |
| | Charleville | 14 | 12 |
| | Newmarket | 13 | 7 |
| | Kanturk | 13 | 12 |
| | Mitchelstown | 37 | 17 |
| | Millstreet | 7 | 3 |
| **WEST CORK** | Clonakilty | 21 | 22 |
| | Dunmanway | 12 | 11 |
| | Skibbereen | 14 | 16 |
| | Schull | 2 | 3 |
| | Castletownbere | 8 | 16 |
| | Bantry | 41 | 51 |
| **KERRY** | Tralee | 1 | 3 |
| | Caherciveen | 8 | 8 |
| | Dingle | 1 | 0 |
| | Killorglin | 1 | 0 |
| | Listowel | 2 | 4 |
| | Killarney | 10 | 12 |
| | Kenmare | 8 | 5 |
| | Other Counties | 46 | 38 |
| | Other Countries | - | - |
| **Totals** | | **1669** | **1615** |

# ERINVILLE HOSPITAL

## STATISTICAL REPORT 1992

| Bed Complement | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 |
| Neo-Natal Cots | 17 | 17 |
| Obstetrical | 56 | 56 |

| Average Number Of Beds Occupied Daily | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 |
| Neo-Natal | 9 | 8 |
| Obstetrical | 46 | 45 |

| Total Bed Days | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 |
| Neo-Natal | 3,363 | 3,196 |
| Obstetrical | 16,805 | 16,483 |

| Percentage Occupancy | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 |
| Neo-Natal | 54.19% | 51.37% |
| Obstetrical | 82.21% | 80.42% |

| Number Of Patients Treated | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 |
| Neo-Natal | 275 | 350 |
| Obstetrical | 4,088 | 4,034 |

| Average Duration Of Stay | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 |
| Neo-Natal | 12.23 | 9.13 |
| Obstetrical | 4.11 | 4.09 |

| BIRTHS | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 |
| | 2,675 | 2,581 |

| OUT-PATIENT ATTENDANCES | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 |
| Ante-Natal | 10,068 | 9,939 |
| Gynaecological | 1,458 | 1,516 |
| Post-Natal | 117 | 128 |
| Babies | 1,593 | 1,511 |
| Parentcraft | 739 | 679 |
| Family Planning | 8 | 24 |
| Breastfeeding | 347 | 309 |
| **Total** | **14,330** | **14,106** |

| GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF BIRTHS | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **SOUTH CORK** | | **1991** | **1992** |
| Cork City: | North | 452 | 457 |
| | South | 405 | 358 |
| Cork Rural: | North | 133 | 156 |
| | South | 153 | 149 |
| | | | |
| | Bandon | 74 | 74 |
| | Macroom | 106 | 82 |
| | Cobh | 61 | 55 |
| | Youghal | 66 | 77 |
| | Carrigaline/Crosshaven | 60 | 33 |
| | Midleton | 48 | 73 |
| | Kinsale | 25 | 34 |
| | Crookstown/Dripsey | 21 | 35 |
| | Donoughmore | 27 | 28 |
| | Ballycotton | | 1 |
| | **TOTAL** | **1,645** | **1,598** |
| **NORTH CORK** | | **1991** | **1992** |
| | Mallow | 184 | 146 |
| | Fermoy | 58 | 64 |
| | Charleville | 40 | 32 |
| | Millstreet | 23 | 21 |
| | Newmarket | 20 | 20 |
| | Mitchelstown | 35 | 23 |
| | Kanturk | 28 | 26 |
| | Buttevant/Doneraile | 27 | 23 |
| | Banteer | 14 | 16 |
| | Glanworth | 15 | 2 |
| | Kildorrery | 20 | 6 |
| | Kildinan | | 1 |
| | Glenville | | 2 |
| | **TOTAL** | **464** | **382** |
| **WEST CORK** | | **1991** | **1992** |
| | Clonakilty | 56 | 75 |
| | Bantry | 59 | 46 |
| | Drimoleague/Dunmanway | 89 | 82 |
| | Skibbereen | 85 | 76 |
| | Ballingeary | 4 | 5 |
| | Glengarriffe | 7 | 7 |
| | Ballyvourney | 2 | 6 |
| | Castletownbere | 15 | 22 |
| | Sherkin | | 1 |
| | Ballineen/Enniskeane | | 4 |
| | **Total** | **317** | **324** |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **KERRY** | | | |
| | Killarney | 80 | 75 |
| | Rathmore | 22 | 40 |
| | Kenmare | 20 | 11 |
| | Tralee | 9 | 8 |
| | Killorglin | 12 | 9 |
| | Caherciveen | 1 | 2 |
| | Listowel | - | 5 |
| | Dingle | 2 | 1 |
| | Castleisland | 8 | 3 |
| | Sneem | 4 | 5 |
| | Kilgarvan | 3 | 4 |
| | Inch | | 1 |
| | Ardfert | | 1 |
| | Farranfore | | 1 |
| | Castlemaine | | 1 |
| | Caherdaniel | | 1 |
| | **Total** | **161** | **168** |
| **OTHERS** | | | |
| | England | 1 | - |
| | Waterford | 52 | 79 |
| | Limerick | 18 | 18 |
| | Tipperary | 14 | 8 |
| | Dublin | - | 2 |
| | Clare | 1 | - |
| | Wicklow | 1 | - |
| | Carlow | - | - |
| | Laois | 1 | - |
| | Kilkenny | | 1 |
| | Wexford | | 1 |
| | **Total** | **88** | **109** |

# ST. MARY'S ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL

## STATISTICAL REPORT 1992

| BED COMPLEMENT | | |
|---|---|---|
| Orthopaedics: | Adults | 99 |
| | Children | 14 |
| Plastic Surgery | | 13 |
| **Total** | | **126** |

| ADMISSIONS | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | **1991** | **1992** |
| Orthopaedics: | Adults | 2,325 | 2,264 |
| | Children | 462 | 500 |
| Plastic Surgery | | 300 | 304 |
| **Total** | | **3,087** | **3,068** |

| IN-PATIENT DAYS | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | **1991** | **1992** |
| Orthopaedics: | Adults | 23,439 | 23,868 |
| | Children | 2,283 | 2,415 |
| Plastic Surgery | | 3,034 | 3,283 |
| **Total** | | **28,756** | **29,566** |

| AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | **1991** | **1992** |
| Orthopaedics: | Adults | 10.08 | 10.54 |
| | Children | 4.94 | 4.83 |
| Plastic Surgery | | 10.11 | 10.80 |

| OPERATIONS | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| Total Operations | 1,434 | 1,474 |
| Hip Replacements | 176 | 219 |
| Knee Replacements | 36 | 57 |

| OUT-PATIENTS DEPARTMENT | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1991** | **NEW** | **RETURN** | **TOTAL** |
| Congential Dislocation of Hips (St. Mary's) | 408 | 358 | 766 |
| Mallow (General Hospital) | 115 | 147 | 262 |
| Scoliosis (Cork Regional Hospital) | 97 | 148 | 245 |
| **1992** | **NEW** | **RETURN** | **TOTAL** |
| Congential Dislocation of Hips (St. Mary's) | 419 | 343 | 762 |
| Mallow (General Hospital) | 99 | 146 | 245 |
| Scoliosis (Cork Regional Hospital) | 86 | 150 | 236 |

| WAITING LISTS AS AT 31 DECEMBER, 1992 | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 |
| Total Hip Replacement | 251 | 301 |
| Total Knee Replacement | 24 | 47 |
| Other Joint Replacement | 10 | 11 |
| Other Elective Procedures | 464 | 633 |
| **Total** | **749** | **992** |

# MALLOW GENERAL HOSPITAL

## STATISTICAL REPORT 1992

| BED COMPLEMENT | |
|---|---|
| Medical | 27 |
| Surgical | 33 |
| I.T.U. | 4 |
| **Sub-Total** | **64** |
| Day Beds | 5 |
| **Total** | **69** |

| ADMISSIONS | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| Medical | 1,177 | 1,399 |
| Surgical | 2,336 | 2,443 |
| **TOTAL** | **3,513** | **3,842** |

| IN-PATIENT DAYS | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| Medical | 7,900 | 8,772 |
| Surgical | 15,086 | 14,602 |
| **TOTAL** | **22,986** | **23,374** |

| AVERAGE DURATION OF STAY | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| Medical | 6.71 | 6.27 |
| Surgical | 6.46 | 5.98 |

| OPERATIONS | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| Total | 2,960 | 2,886 |

| X-RAY DEPARTMENT | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| Total number of examinations | 15,726 | 16,357 |
| Total number of patients | 12,458 | 13,126 |

| PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| Total number of attendances | 6,060 | 4,207 |
| Total number of patients treated | 1,217 | 783 |

| OUT-PATIENTS DEPARTMENT | | |
|---|---|---|
| **New Patients** | **1991** | **1992** |
| Medical | 318 | 352 |
| Surgical | 1,133 | 1,235 |
| Paediatric | 78 | 81 |
| Orthopaedic | 110 | 69 |
| E.N.T. | 562 | 692 |
| **Total** | **2,201** | **2,429** |

| **Total number of attendances** | **1991** | **1992** |
|---|---|---|
| Medical | 2,290 | 1,933 |
| Surgical | 5,000 | 4,949 |
| Paediatric | 232 | 194 |
| Orthopaedic | 259 | 170 |
| E.N.T. | 1,089 | 1,062 |
| **Total** | **8,870** | **8,308** |

# GENERAL HOSPITALS PROGRAMME

# GENERAL HOSPITALS PROGRAMME

The General Hospitals Programme consists of two General Hospitals, eighteen District Hospitals, three Geriatric Hospitals, two Welfare Homes, the Ambulance Service and St Mary's Laundry:

- Tralee General Hospital
- Bantry County Hospital
- The Cottage Hospital, Bandon
- St. Anne's Hospital, Caherciveen
- St. Joseph's Hospital, Castletownbere
- District Hospital, Clonakilty
- St. Anthony's Hospital, Dunmanway
- St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Dingle
- St. Patrick's Hospital, Fermoy
- District Hospital, Kanturk
- District Hospital, Killarney
- Sacred Heart Hospital, Kinsale
- District Hospital, Listowel
- District Hospital, Macroom
- District Hospital, Midleton
- St. Joseph's Hospital, Millstreet
- St. Anne's Hospital, Skibbereen
- St. Gabriel's Hospital, Schull
- The Cottage Hospital, Youghal
- St. Columbanus (Geriatric Hospital) Killarney
- Mount Carmel Home and Hospital, Clonakilty
- Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Midleton
- St. Francis Home, Fermoy
- Youghal Welfare Home

**Table 29**
**STAFF & BED COMPLEMENT**

| | Staff | BEDS | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Acute 7-Day | 5-day | Long Stay | Respite | Total |
| Tralee General Hospital | 580 | 229 | 15 | 60 | 0 | 304 |
| Bantry County Hospital | 141 | 68 | – | – | 0 | 68 |
| | | | | | | |
| **District Hospitals:** | | | | | | |
| Bandon | 21 | – | – | 22 | 1 | 23 |
| Caherciveen | 31 | – | – | 49 | 0 | 49 |
| Castletownbere | 19 | – | – | 32 | 2 | 34 |
| Clonakilty | 27 | – | – | 50 | 0 | 50 |
| Dingle | 30 | – | – | 47 | 0 | 47 |
| Dunmanway | 17 | – | – | 22 | 1 | 23 |
| Fermoy | 50 | – | – | 72 | 8 | 80 |
| Kanturk | 31 | – | – | 50 | 2 | 52 |
| Kenmare | 18 | – | – | 26 | 0 | 26 |
| Killarney | 30 | – | – | 38 | 4 | 42 |
| Kinsale | 25 | – | – | 38 | 2 | 40 |
| Listowel | 38 | – | – | 64 | 0 | 64 |
| Macroom | 22 | – | – | 57 | 1 | 38 |
| Midleton | 19 | – | – | 22 | 2 | 24 |
| Millstreet | 17 | – | – | 25 | 1 | 26 |
| Skibbereen | 28 | – | – | 38 | 2 | 40 |
| Schull | 17 | – | – | 20 | 1 | 21 |
| Youghal | 23 | – | – | 45 | 1 | 46 |
| **Tralee** | **25** | – | – | **60** | **0** | **60** |
| **Bantry** | **11** | – | – | **20** | **5** | **25** |
| | | | | | | |
| **Geriatric Hospitals** | | | | | | |
| Clonakilty Geriatric Hospital | 56 | – | – | 147 | 0 | 147 |
| Killarney Geriatric Hospital | 98 | – | – | 265 | 0 | 265 |
| Midleton Geriatric | 37 | – | – | 66 | 0 | 66 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Welfare Homes** | | | | | | |
| Fermoy Welfare Home | 9 | – | – | 40 | 0 | 40 |
| Youghal Welfare Home | 10 | – | – | 40 | 0 | 40 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Total** | **1354** | **297** | **15** | **1315** | **28** | **1655** |

## REVIEW OF 1992

In 1991, the number of in-patients treated at the two acute hospitals (Bantry and Tralee) increased by almost 1% over the previous year.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1992: | 17,195 |
| 1991: | 17,921 |

Accident and Emergency attendances decreased by

| | |
|---|---|
| 1992: | 28,556 |
| 1991: | 29,291 |

While out-patient attendances declined by almost 2.6%.

Of particular significance is the growth in day cases which is up 85% on 1990 and is attributed to the approach we have encouraged, particularly in Tralee.

# TRALEE GENERAL HOSPITAL

## STATISTICAL REPORT
## 1992

# TRALEE GENERAL HOSPITAL

Tralee General Hospital, which was officially opened in April 1984, was built as a 425 bed acute hospital. It provides a general acute hospital service for County Kerry.
(Population 121,719 - 1991 Census of Population).

The maximum number of acute beds utilised at the hospital was 289. However, since August 1987, the acute bed complement has been reduced to 244.

**Bed Complement :**

| | |
|---|---|
| Surgical<br>(incl. 15 5-day beds) | 65 |
| Medical | 58 |
| Obstetrical | 34 |
| Gynaecological | 10 |
| Paediatric<br>(incl. 3 used for E.N.T.) | 33 |
| Orthopaedic | 30 |
| I.T.U. | 4 |
| Neo Natal | 10 |
| | |
| **Total** | **244** |

In October 1986, 60 long-stay beds were opened to cater for patients transferred from Edenburn Hospital.

In May 1991, 50 acute psychiatric beds were opened to cater initially for patients transferred from St. Finan's Hospital and to operate as the admission unit for Co. Kerry.

354 beds are therefore currently in use at the hospital.

15 of these beds are designated 5-day beds (in the Clonfert Ward) and were opened on 8 October 1990.

| Table No. 30 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| In-Patient Activity Analysis 1992 | | | | |
| **Specialty** | **No. of Beds** | **Patients Treated** | **In-Patient Days** | **Average Duration of Stay** |
| | | | | |
| Surgery | 50 | 3,283 | 17,353 | 5.28 |
| Medical | 58 | 3,016 | 19,699 | 6.53 |
| Obstetrics | 34 | 1,467 | 7,152 | 4.88 |
| Gynaecology | 10 | 560 | 1,371 | 2.45 |
| Paediatrics | 33 | 1,429 | 7,865 | 5.50 |
| E.N.T. | -- | 103 | 275 | 2.67 |
| Orthopaedics | 30 | 1,291 | 10,115 | 7.84 |
| I.T.U. | 4 | 207 | 1,338 | 6.46 |
| Neo-natal | 10 | 220 | 2,357 | 10.71 |
| 5-Day Ward | 15 | 1,596 | 3,409 | 2.14 |
| Day Admissions | -- | 1,001 | --- | -- |
| **Total** | **244** | **14,173** | **70,904** | **5.46** |

| Table No. 31 | | |
|---|---|---|
| Patients Treated | | |
| | **1991** | **1992** |
| Surgery | 3,999 | 3,878 |
| Medical | 3,485 | 3,466 |
| Obstetrics | 1,534 | 1,467 |
| Paediatrics | 1,363 | 1,454 |
| Gynaecology | 660 | 585 |
| E.N.T. | 76 | 109 |
| Orthopaedics | 1,497 | 1,497 |
| I.T.U. | 228 | 207 |
| Neo-Natal | 254 | 220 |
| Day Cases | 1,431 | 1,290 |
| **Total** | **14,527** | **14,173** |

## Admissions

In 1992, 14,173 patients were admitted to Tralee General Hospital. This represented a decrease of 2% on the 1991 figure of 14,527.

An examination of the source of these admissions reveals that General Practitioners were responsible for 43% of the admissions totalling 6,141, a decrease of 4% on the 1991 figure of 6,403. Admissions through the Accident and Emergency Department accounted for 18% or 2,510, which is similar to the 1991 figure of 2,508.

Births at the hospital were down 7% at 1,093 compared with 1,180 in 1991.

Admissions from the waiting lists and consultant's private rooms at 3,614 were similar to the 1991 figures.

## Geriatric Unit

The activity in the 60 Bed Long-Stay Geriatric Unit was as follows:

| | 1992 | 1991 | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Patients Treated | 99 | 96 | +3% |
| In-Patient Days | 21,720 | 21,637 | + 3% |
| Percentage Occupancy | 99.02% | 98.79% | same |
| Average Duration of Stay | 219 Days | 225 Days | - 2% |

## Psychiatric Unit

The activity in the 60 bed Psychiatric Unit, which opened in May, 1991 was as follows:

| | 1992 | 1991 | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| No. of Admissions | 547 | 858 | + 57% |
| In-Patient Days | 8,307 | 15,872 | + 71% |
| Percentage Occupancy | 82.36% | 86.96% | + 6% |
| Average Duration of Stay | 17.01 | 18.50 Days | + 9% |

# BANTRY GENERAL HOSPITAL

## STATISTICAL REPORT
## 1992

# BANTRY GENERAL HOSPITAL

The hospital is situated outside the town of Bantry on a site overlooking Bantry Bay.

The site of the hospital was formerly occupied by a District Hospital and a Fever Hospital for the West Cork area. The District Hospital was demolished in 1956 to make way for the construction of the present hospital which was opened in 1960. The former Fever Hospital building was retained and renovated for use as domestic staff quarters for the County Hospital.

It provides medical and surgical services to the West Cork area which has a population of 48,388 (1991 Census of Population).

**Table No. 32**

**BED COMPLEMENT AND OCCUPANCY FOR 2 YEARS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1991**

| | BED COMPLEMENT | PERCENTAGE OCCUPANCY | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1991 | 1992 |
| Medical | 33 | 101.26 | 94.48 |
| Surgical | 31 | 75.93 | 67.01 |
| Maternity | Nil | 7.39 | |
| Children | Nil | 2.29 | 1.93 |
| I.C.U. | 4 | 65.75 | 64.25 |

**Table No. 33**

**CLASSIFICATION OF PATIENTS TREATED AND AVERAGE DURATION OF STAY FOR TWO YEARS**

| Category | Patients Treated | | Average Duration of Stay (in days) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 | 1991 | 1992 |
| Medical | 1,641 | 1,677 | 6.97 | 6.57 |
| Surgical | 1,152 | 1,117 | 6.53 | 6.46 |
| Maternity | 11 | 7 | 2.45 | 1.85 |
| Children | 262 | 221 | 3.19 | 3.19 |
| **TOTAL** | **3,066** | **3,022** | **19.14** | **18.07** |

**Table No. 34**

**CLASSIFICATION OF PATIENT DAYS FOR TWO YEARS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1992**

| YEAR | MEDICAL | SURGICAL | CHILDREN | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1991** | 11,891 | 8,033 | 839 | 20,763 |
| **1992** | 11,381 | 7,583 | 706 | 19,670 |

| Table No. 35<br>BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR TWO YEARS ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1992 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| YEAR | LIVE BIRTHS | STILL BIRTHS | TOTAL BIRTHS | DEATHS |
| 1991 | 11 | Nil | 11 | 132 |
| 1992 | 7 | Nil | 7 | 104 |

| Table No. 36<br>OPERATIONS | | |
|---|---|---|
| Year | 1991 | 1992 |
| Total | 1,389 | 1,562 |

| Table No. 37<br>X-RAY DEPARTMENT | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 |
| Total number of examinations | 10,776 | 10,733 |
| Total number of patients | 8,020 | 8,329 |

| Table No. 38<br>PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT | | |
|---|---|---|
| | 1991 | 1992 |
| Total number of attendances | 7,498 | 8,076 |
| Total number of patients treated | 2,749 | 3,479 |

| Table No. 39<br>ATTENDANCES AT OUT-PATIENT CLINICS FOR TWO YEARS ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1992 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | New Patients | | Total Number of Attendances | |
| CLINIC | 1991 | 1992 | 1991 | 1992 |
| Medical | 249 | 297 | 1,791 | 1,839 |
| Surgical | 589 | 669 | 3,072 | 3,125 |
| Maternity | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Diabetic | 5 | 1 | 264 | 314 |
| Paediatric | 29 | 39 | 114 | 111 |

| Table No. 39(a)<br>BANTRY GERIATRIC UNIT | | |
|---|---|---|
| Year | 1991 | 1992 |
| Patients Treated | 71 | 102 |
| Patient days | 4,292 | 8,370 |
| % Occupancy | 94.07 | 91.73 |
| Average duration of Stay | 60.45 | 82.06 |

# AMBULANCE SERVICE

## REPORT 1992

# Ambulance Service Report 1992

1. In 1992 the Ambulance Service conveyed a total of 28,436 patients and travelled a total of 700,328 miles. This represents an increase of 1.5% for patients and 7% for mileage over the corresponding 1991 figures.

2. The ambulance fleet comprises 24 operational ambulances, 6 spare ambulances and 1 Major Accident Vehicle. Ambulances are based at 20 stations throughout the Board area. Three new ambulances were purchased in 1992. However, the general condition of the fleet has deteriorated due to the shortfall in replacement ambulances over the last ten years. One third of the ambulances have mileage in excess of 100,000 miles and are five or more years on the road.

3. The Major Accident Plan was revised in November, 1992 and given a wide distribution. Special emergency cover was provided at a number of Large Crowd Events during the year.

4. Helicopters continue to provide a vital service in the case of a small number of seriously ill patients:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **To External Hospitals** | **10** | **(mainly to Dublin hospitals)** |
| **To Board Hospitals** | **32** | **(mainly from Marine Accidents)** |

5. The cost of patient transport for the year was as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Ambulance Service** | **£2,436,740** |
| **Hired Transport** | **£ 216,841** |
| | **£2,532,467** |

**Ambulance Service**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Cost per mile:** | **£ 3.48** |
| **Cost per patient:** | **£85.67** |
| **Cost per head of population:** | **£ 4.48** |

**Income from ambulance charges amounted to £116,938**

6. Cardiac Ambulances:

The first phase of the pre hospital emergency cardiac care (cardiac ambulances) was completed in November. Eight ambulances at three locations (Cork City, Fermoy, Killarney) were equipped with advisory defibrillators and 36 staff completed a special training course. The introduction of this service was made possible by contributions from community and voluntary groups. The introduction of cardiac ambulances at other stations is planned for 1993 and 1994.

7. Communications:

The first phase of the replacement of the control and radio systems was completed with the aid of a £100,000 capital grant from the Department of Health. Funding has been requested to replace the remaining equipment which has been in continuous use for 13 years.

| Table No. 43 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| AMBULANCE SERVICE | | | | |
| STATION | MILEAGE | | PATIENTS TRANSPORTED | |
| | 1991 | 1992 | 1991 | 1992 |
| Cork | 127,691 | 127,259 | 12,862 | 13,414 |
| Tralee | 72,686 | 86.099 | 2,770 | 2,710 |
| Bantry | 15,601 | 18,550 | 603 | 636 |
| Mallow | 34,054 | 37,262 | 1,404 | 1,488 |
| Caherciveen | 21,916 | 28,505 | 324 | 437 |
| Castletown. | 18,971 | 22,338 | 276 | 324 |
| Clonakilty | 45,202 | 44,452 | 1,109 | 1,109 |
| Dingle | 21,749 | 19,313 | 449 | 449 |
| Fermoy | 26,673 | 30,187 | 559 | 609 |
| Kanturk | 29,979 | 32,123 | 841 | 851 |
| Kenmare | 15,616 | 18,262 | 269 | 330 |
| Killarney | 53,703 | 61,135 | 1,252 | 1,342 |
| Listowel | 28,107 | 27,119 | 883 | 854 |
| Macroom | 29,110 | 22,634 | 917 | 551 |
| Midleton | 29,900 | 31,572 | 1,025 | 1,062 |
| Millstreet | 21,946 | 25,799 | 669 | 590 |
| Skibbereen | 29,856 | 30,652 | 887 | 827 |
| Youghal | 33,310 | 37,067 | 911 | 909 |
| **TOTAL** | **656,070** | **700,328** | **28,010** | **28,436** |

# PSYCHIATRIC AND MENTAL HANDICAP SERVICES

## Annual Report 1992

# PSYCHIATRIC AND MENTAL HANDICAP SERVICES

This Programme covers the provision of services for persons with mental illness. The service was originally based in a number of large institutions but is increasingly changing to a community base with acute care provided in a general hospital setting. A Seven Year Plan for the development of the service was published in 1992.

The Programme also deals with the provision of services for persons with mental handicap. This service consists of day and residential care in facilities owned and managed by the Board and by voluntary and religious groups either grant aided by the Board or direct funded by the Department of Health. Co-ordination of services is provided for by a system of Consultative and Planning Committees. A Seven Year Plan for the development of the service was published in 1991.

## Services for Persons with Mental Illness

The Irish Psychiatric Service was established for the most part in the 19th Century and was based on the Mental Hospital or District Lunatic Asylum, as it was originally known. Most of these institutions were erected in the period 1820 to 1870 and have long since outlived their usefulness. Developments in the Psychiatric Service in post war Britain and the U.S. led to a general disenchantment with the Mental Hospital environment and the emphasis switched from institutional care to care in the Community. The change in policy was furthered by the results of a number of studies on "Institutional Neurosis" which concluded that much of the morbidity shown by long-stay patients was caused by the Hospital environment rather than the illness for which the patient was originally admitted. The service began to change in this country also but it was not until 1984 and the publication of the Working Party Report on the service "Planning for the Future" that a new framework for a modern Psychiatric Service was formally laid down.

Following the publication of Planning for the Future, Health Boards began the process of planning for the closure of the old institutions and the development of a new community based service. Progress was slow and haphazard however, due to the lack of development funds from the Department of Health.

A new initiative was undertaken in this Board's area in 1988 with development funds from the sale of land attached to the Psychiatric Hospitals. The publication of the Programme for Economic and Social Progress in 1991 and it's commitment to provide development funds for the service over a seven year period gave further impetus to the work at hand.

The profile of the service was further raised in 1992 with the publication of the reports of the Inspector of Mental Hospitals for the years 1988 and 1989 and with the publication of the Green Paper on Mental Health and the commitment to introduce new mental health legislation at an early date.

In March 1992 the Board published its Seven Year Development Plan (1992-1998)for the service in accordance with the criteria set out in the Programme for Economic and Social Progress. The Plan received widespread support and was the basis of a major conference in Cork in September 1992, opened by the Minister for Health.

The Plan sets out the developments which have taken place since 1988 almost entirely from within the Board's own resources. In that time there has been a marked change in the type of accommodation provided for long-stay psychiatric patients. The trend has been the movement of these patients from the old traditional large institutions to newer facilities, many of which are community based. In 1985 there were 1,380 patients in long-stay accommodation in this Board's area of whom over 1,300 were accommodated in just two institutions: Our Lady's Hospital, Cork and St. Finan's Hospital, Killarney.

Today, there are a total of just over 1,100 patients in long-stay accommodation in a great variety of facilities ranging from the old institutions, where the numbers continue to decrease, to new facilities in hospitals and new community facilities including medium and high support hostels.

Linked to this has been a major expansion of day facilities and in our area the number of day hospitals increased from three in 1985 to nine in 1992, with an average daily attendance of 145. There was no day centre in the Board's area in 1985 and today there are seven, with a total daily attendance of 70. In addition the number of people in low support hostels and community residences has increased from 38 in 1985 to 108 in 1992.

The following tables no. 44 to no. 51 serve to illustrate graphically the way in which the service has changed and developed in recent years. Any facility opened or expanded in 1992 is highlighted and will be referred to specifically, later, in the body of this report.

**Table No. 44**

**ACUTE UNITS**

**Number of beds in use**

| | 1985 | 1987 | 1991 | 1992 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| St. Anne's Unit, Our Lady's Hosp. | 50 | 42 | 42 | 42 |
| G.F. Unit, Cork Regional Hospital | 50 | 35 | 35 | 35 |
| St. Stephen's Hospital, Glanmire | 65 | 44 | 44 | 44 |
| St. Anne's Hospital, Skibbereen | 25 | 25 | 16 | 22 |
| St. Finan's Hospital, Killarney | 50 | 50 | -- | -- |
| Admission Unit, Tralee General Hosp. | -- | -- | 50 | 50 |

| Table No. 45 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| IN-PATIENT FACILITIES | | | | |
| Number of beds in use | | | | |
| **Traditional Long-Stay** | **1985** | **1987** | **1991** | **1992** |
| Our Lady's Hospital | 912 | 908 | 247 | 230 |
| Macroom | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 |
| St. Stephen's | 105 | 104 | 142 | 269 |
| St. Anne's, Skibbereen | --- | --- | 6 | 6 |
| Mt. Alvernia | 113 | 111 | 111 | 109 |
| Heatherside | 191 | 161 | 130 | 120 |
| St. Finan's | 526 | 488 | 367 | 333 |

| Table No. 46 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| NEW IN-PATIENT FACILITIES | | | | |
| **New In-Patient Facilities** | **1985** | **1987** | **1991** | **1992** |
| Midleton Mental Health Centre | - | - | 40 | 40 |
| St Catherine's Unit, St Finbarr's Hosp, Cork | - | - | 26 | 26 |
| St Monica's Unit, St Finbarr's Hosp, Cork | - | - | 18 | 18 |

| Table No. 47 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| HIGH SUPPORT HOSTELS | | | | |
| **High Support Hostels** | **1985** | **1987** | **1991** | **1992** |
| Glenmalure/Kilmourne | 16 | 16 | 20 | 20 |
| Cherryfield House | - | - | - | 20 |

| Table No. 48 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| LOW MEDIUM SUPPORT HOSTELS | | | | |
| **Low Medium Support Hostels** | **1985** | **1987** | **1991** | **1992** |
| Teach Brid, Our Lady's Hospital | - | - | 7 | 5 |
| Teach Olan, Our Lady's Hospital | - | - | 5 | 6 |
| Ard-na-Greine, St. Stephen's Hosp. | - | - | 5 | 5 |
| St. Anne's Hostel, Skibbereen | - | - | 8 | 8 |
| St. Mary's Hostel, Skibbereen | - | - | 5 | 5 |
| Elmwood House, Skibbereen | - | - | - | 11 |
| St. David's Hostel, Clonakilty | - | - | 6 | 6 |
| Cois Cuan, Bantry | - | - | 10 | 10 |

| Table No. 49 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| COMMUNITY RESIDENCES | | | | |
| **Community Residences** | **1985** | **1987** | **1991** | **1992** |
| Gougane Barra, Western Road, Cork | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| Barrackfield, Youghal | - | - | 4 | 4 |
| Riordan's Lane, Midleton | - | - | - | 8 |
| Former Dispensary, Midleton | - | - | - | 2 |
| Ballincollig (C.M.H.A.) | - | - | 8 | 8 |
| Togher (C.M.H.A.) | - | - | 4 | 4 |
| Maple Place, Togher | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Mt. Brosna, Mayfield | - | - | 5 | 4 |
| Oaklodge, Douglas Road | - | - | 5 | 5 |
| Moher Crescent, Mitchelstown | - | - | 5 | 4 |
| Coach Street, Cork | - | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Seskin Park, Bantry | - | - | 5 | 5 |
| Derrymihan West, Castletownbere | - | - | 2 | 2 |
| Droumleigh Close, Bantry | - | - | - | 8 |
| Shanakiel, Tralee | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Rathoonane, Monavalley, Tralee | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| Marden House, New St., Caherciveen | - | - | 6 | 6 |
| Woodview Park, Tarbert | - | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Port Road, Killarney | - | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Allman's Terrace, Killarney | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Avondale House, Lewis Rd., Killarney | 6 | 6 | 6 | 5 |
| Woodlawn Park, Killarney | - | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Countess Grove, Killarney | 5 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| Ross House, Upper Lewis Rd, Killarney | 9 | 9 | 9 | 8 |
| Mangerton House, Upr. Lewis Rd., Killarney | - | - | 6 | 7 |
| Woodlawn Park, Killarney | - | - | 5 | 5 |
| Ardshanavolley, Killarney | - | - | 2 | 2 |
| Marian Terrace, Killarney | - | - | 2 | 2 |
| Dunloe Lodge, Plunkett Street, Killarney | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Aspen House, Group Home | - | - | - | 3 |

| Table No. 50 DAY HOSPITALS | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Day Hospitals** | **YEAR OPENED** | **AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE** |
| St. Mary's Day Hosp., Cork | 1990 | 22 |
| Day Hosp. Service, Midleton M.H.C. | 1992 | 10 |
| St. Finbarr's Day Hosp., Cork | 1990 | 24 |
| Day Hospital Service, G.F. Unit | 1979 | 9 |
| St. Stephen's Day Hospital | 1986 | 20 |
| St. Anne's Unit, Day Hospital | 1984 | 21 |
| Caherina Day Hospital | 1978 | 20 |
| Avoca House Day Hospital | 1992 | 11 |
| Senan House Day Hosp., Listowel | 1990 | 10 |

| Table No. 51 DAY CENTRES | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Day Centres** | **YEAR OPENED** | **AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE** |
| Midleton Mental Health Centre | 1989 | 10 |
| Mitchelstown Day Centre | 1990 | 18 |
| Skibbereen Day Centre | 1987 | 6 |
| Rathmore Day Centre | 1990 | 9 |
| Dingle Day Centre | 1990 | 6 |
| Caherciveen Day Centre | 1987 | 13 |
| Aspen House Day Centre, Killarney | 1992(December) | 10 |

It is clear from all the foregoing that, as the old long-stay institutions continue to decline, a whole range of new facilities have been established in their place. A clear example of this in the Board's area has been the closure of what was known as the Grey Building in Our Lady's Hospital. In 1988 the building accommodated over 400 patients. The building was closed in 1992 marking the end of an era.

Much more remains to be done however in relation to the development of a comprehensive community based psychiatric service. In this respect the Board's Seven Year Development Plan (1992-98), referred to already, sets out the task ahead in establishing the complete or "ideal" service by the end of the planning period.

Work on the implementation of the various proposals proceeded in 1992 in very difficult financial circumstances and without any revenue development funds from the Department of Health. A capital allocation of £170,000 was provided by the Department in respect of the purchase of a property in Macroom for development as a Mental Health Centre, the development of a High Support Hostel in Caherciveen and relocation of the Day Hospital in Killarney.

While development funds have been limited the Board has endeavoured to push ahead with the setting in place of a comprehensive community based psychiatric service as outlined in the plan. The following projects listed in the plan for 1992 have now taken place or are so substantially in progress as to warrant their removal from the priority list:

1. Relocation of Intensive Care Wards from Grey Building, O.L.H., to St. Kevin's Hospital.
2. Relocation of Day Hospital, Killarney.
3. Development of Day Centre, Killarney.
4. Relocation of Stores and Administration, O.L.H.
5. Development of premises for Day Centre, Kanturk.
6. Development of Low Support Hostel, Aspen House, Killarney.
7. Residential Unit, Macroom.
8. Day Hospital/Day Centre, Macroom.
9. Medium Support Hostel, Elmwood House, Skibbereen.
10. Extended Day Centre, Dingle.

In addition approval has been granted by the Department of Health to proceed with the development of an acute psychiatric unit as part of the Mercy Hospital development and to serve the North Lee catchment area.

It will be seen form the above that good progress continues to be made in relation to the development of the service on foot of the Seven Year Development Plan. The projects listed above which are completed or substantially in progress, account for 11 of the 28 projects listed in the plan as the developments proposed for 1992, the first year of the Plan. Work on the review of the Plan for 1993 was well underway at the end of the year.

The capital allocation provided by the Department of Health in 1992 was a welcome initiative coming against a backdrop of major transformation in the service in recent years funded entirely from within the Board's own resources. The original impetus was funded from the sale of land and while the Board has a small number of substantial assets still to be realised in the service, the fact remains that additional development funding will be required from the Department of Health under the terms of the Programme for Economic and Social Progress. The Board's Seven Year Development Plan, as updated, will place us in a strong position to avail of any such development funds to be provided.

A report on the service in each catchment area follows.

# REPORTS ON CATCHMENT AREAS

## NORTH LEE CATCHMENT AREA - Population = 114,173

1. **ACUTE UNIT**
   St. Anne's Hospital. Cork.
2. **LONG-STAY PSYCHIATRIC ACCOMMODATION**
   Our Lady's Hospital, Cork.
3. **PSYCHO-GERIATRIC ACCOMMODATION**
   St. Bridget's Unit, Our Lady's Hospital, Cork.
   St. Colman's Hospital, Macroom.
4. **MENTAL HEALTH CENTRE**
   Midleton Mental Health Centre.
5. **DAY HOSPITALS**
   Psychiatric Day Hospital,
   St. Mary's Orthopaedic Hospital, Gurranabraher, Cork.
   Day Hospital Service, St. Anne's Unit, Our Lady's Hospital.
   Day Hospital Service, Mental Health Centre, Midleton.
6. **DAY CENTRE**
   Midleton (Grounds of District Hospital)
7. **OUT-PATIENT CLINICS**
   St. Anne's Hospital, Cork.
   Rehabilitation Clinic, St. Anne's Hospital, Cork.
   Health Centre, St. Mary's Orthopaedic Hospital, Cork.
   Bons Secours Hospital, Cobh.
   Gougane Barra House, Western Road, Cork.
   St. Colman's Hospital, Macroom.
   Our Lady of Lourde's Hospital, Midleton.
   St. Raphael's Hospital, Youghal.
8. **HALF-WAY HOUSE (LOW/MEDIUM SUPPORT HOSTEL)**
   Teach Brid, Grounds of Our Lady's Hospital
   Teach Olan, Grounds of Our Lady's Hospital.
   Riordan's Lane, Midleton.
   Dispensary, Midleton.
9. **HOSTELS**
   Gougane Barra House, Western Road, Cork.
   Woodview Court, Youghal.
10. **PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES/WORKSHOPS**
    Shanakiel Vocational Training Centre (Grounds of Our Lady's Hospital).
    Bawnard Industrial Training Centre, Youghal (Grounds of St. Raphael's Hospital).
    Sheltered Workshop (Grounds of Our Lady's Hospital)

# Reports On Individual Hospitals

### Acute Psychiatric Admission Unit, St. Anne's, Shanakiel

This 42 bed unit is at present located at St. Anne's Hospital, Shanakiel. The catchment area has been sectorised and all of the sector Consultant Psychiatrists attend at the unit. A number of day hospital places are also available at St. Anne's Unit. There were 728 admissions to the unit in 1992 and the average daily attendance at the day hospital in the unit for the year was 21.

It is expected that the Acute Admission Unit for the North Lee catchment area will transfer to the Mercy Hospital as part of the proposed development of that hospital and in this respect approval has recently been received from the Minister for Health to proceed to the next stage of planning of this major development.

### Our Lady's Hospital, Lee Road, Cork

Total admissions to Our Lady's Hospital in 1992 were 675 of whom 158 were first admissions. The total number of in-patients in the Hospital at the 31/12/92 was 255, of which 67 (26.27%) were short-stay (under 3 months), 16 (6.27%) were medium stay (3 months to 12 months), and the remainder 172 (52.15%) were long-stay (over 1 year).

### Long-stay Psychiatric Accommodation

At present there are 162 long-stay psychiatric patients accommodated at Our lady's Hospital. 117 of these are located in St. Kevin's Unit and a further 45 are accommodated at St. Bridget's Unit. Of this total 72 are over 65 years of age. On the 1st January, 1992, there were 219 long-stay psychiatric patients in the hospital and a reduction in numbers has been brought about in the following way:

(i) 22 patients transferred to St. Stephen's Hospital, Sarsfields Court, Glanmire, Cork.
(ii) 7 geriatric patients transferred to St. Finbarr's Hospital, Douglas Road, Cork.
(iii) 5 patients transferred to Midleton Mental Health Centre.
(iv) 3 patients transferred to hostel accommodation in the community.
(v) 20 deaths.

It is planned that further long-stay patients will transfer to other hospitals and newly established community facilities, i.e. former Monastery Macroom and Gougane Barra House, Western Road, before the end of 1993.

### St. Colman's Hospital, Macroom.

The Psychiatric Unit is located adjacent to the District Hospital and at present accommodates 22 patients of whom 11 are Mental Handicap and 11 Psycho-Geriatric.

This 22 bed unit accommodates 11 long-stay psychiatric patients and 11 mentally handicapped adults. It is intended to transfer the mentally handicapped residents to more suitable accommodation in accordance with the terms of the Board's Seven year Development Plans for the Mentally Ill and Mentally Handicapped. The unit will be linked to the new facility being developed in the adjacent

former monastery building, which is being purchased with the assistance of grant aid totalling £100,000 from the Department of Health.

**Midleton Mental Health Centre.**

This Centre was opened in November 1988. At 31/12/92 there were 42 patients resident in the Centre and there were a total of 36 admissions during the year.

This facility accommodates 40 former long-stay psychiatric patients who have transferred from Our Lady's Hospital since the Mental Health Centre opened in 1988. According as residents of the centre progress to hostel accommodation in the community they are replaced by transfers from Our Lady's Hospital.

**Intensive Care Unit**

This 40 bed unit is located in ground floor accommodation at St. Kevin's Unit, Our Lady's Hospital. The facility is shared by the four Cork catchment areas. 20 of the beds are used for acute and 20 for long-stay intensive care patients and the beds are evenly divided between males and females. A structured programme of activities is carried out at the unit and this also involves outdoor activities. It is intended to reduce the number of long-stay/chronic beds in the facility which is earmarked for transfer to St. Stephen's Hospital, Sarsfields Court, in the Board's Seven Year Development Plan for Psychiatry.

## Community Facilities

### Day Hospitals

**Day Hospital, St. Mary's Orthopaedic, Gurranabraher**

The facility was officially opened on the 21st May, 1991 and is the Sector Headquarters for the North Western Sector of the North Lee catchment area. It provides 30 day places and caters for a sector population of approximately 26,000 with an average daily attendance of 22.

The Day Hospital provides appropriate care for acute patients in the sector other than in-patient treatment and it is in line with developments in psychiatry whereby the service is extending from the hospitals to local communities.

**Day Hospital, St. Anne's Unit, Shanakiel**

A Day Hospital Service is provided at St. Anne's Acute Unit, Shanakiel. There are six places available at the Day Hospital and the average daily attendance was 21 in 1992.

**Day Hospital, Midleton**

This service is provided from the District Hospital in Midleton which is adjacent to Midleton Mental Health Centre. There are 20 places available and the average daily attendance was 9 in 1992. It is planned to further expand and develop the day hospital service in Midleton in 1993 through the acquisition of additional space at the District Hospital.

## Day Centres

**Proposed Day Centre, Macroom**

The purchase of the former Monastery building adjacent to St. Colman's Hospital will facilitate the establishment of the Sector Headquarters there. Part of this development will include the opening of a 20 place day centre for the sector in 1993.

## High Support Hostels

**Proposed High Support Hostel, Gougane Barra House, Western Road, Cork**

An 11 place high support hostel is proposed for this facility in 1993. The development of the unit, which will have 24 hours staffing, along with the development at the former Monastery in Macroom will facilitate the closure of a long-stay ward at St. Kevin's Unit, Our Lady's Hospital.

**Proposed High Support Hostel, Macroom**

The purchase of the former Monastery building at Macroom, which is on-going, will facilitate the opening of an 18 place high support hostel there in 1993. The hostel will be staffed on a 24 hour basis and will cater for as many persons as possible who were formerly from the Macroom area and who are now accommodated at Our Lady's Hospital.

## Pre-Vocational Training Centres/Workshops

(a) **Shanakiel Pre-Vocational Training Centre**
This facility is situated in the Grounds of Our Lady's Hospital (former St. John's Unit). It was opened in December 1990 and provides pre-vocational training for in excess of thirty trainees. The Centre qualifies for European Social Funding and is staffed by a Workshop Manager and three Instructors.

(b) **Bawnard Pre-Vocational Training Centre**
This Centre is situated in the Grounds of St. Raphael's Hospital, Youghal, and provides training for twenty people. Staffing at the Centre comprises a Workshop Manager and four Instructors and the operation is funded through the European Social Fund.

(c) **Killian Community Workshop, Our Lady's Hospital**
This Sheltered Workshop facility caters for seventy five attenders on a five-day-week basis. The average daily attendance during 1992 was 62. Contract work is carried out at the Centre along with upholstery, furniture repair and painting. Both in-patients and day attenders are catered for at the facility.

## VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

A number of voluntary organisations, notably Alcoholics Anonymous, A.W.A.R.E., Cork Mental Health Association, G.R.O.W., The Samaritans, The Schizophrenia Association, The Watergate Centre and a number of other groups provide much welcomed assistance to the North Lee Catchment Area, Psychiatric Services.

# SOUTH LEE CATCHMENT AREA - Population = 148,426

1. **ACUTE UNIT**
   G.F. Unit, Cork Regional Hospital.

2. **LONG-STAY PSYCHIATRIC ACCOMMODATION**
   St. Catherine's & St. Monica's Units, St. Finbarr's Hospital, Cork.

3. **PSYCHO-GERIATRIC ACCOMMODATION**
   Heatherside Hospital, Buttevant.

4. **DAY HOSPITALS**
   Psychiatric Day Hospital, St. Finbarr's Hospital, Cork.
   Day Hospital Service, G.F. Unit, Cork Regional Hospital.

5. **OUT-PATIENT CLINICS**
   Cork Regional Hospital.
   Bandon.
   Kinsale.
   Psychiatric Day Hospital, St. Finbarr's Hospital, Cork.

6. **HIGH SUPPORT HOSTEL**
   Glenmalure/Kilmourne Hostel, Blackrock Road, Cork.

7. **HOSTELS**
   Oaklodge, Douglas Road, Cork.
   Maple Place, Togher.
   Two residences at Innismore Drive, Ballincollig (C.M.H.A.).
   Edward Walsh Road, Togher (C.M.H.A.).

# Reports on Individual Hospitals

**Acute Psychiatric Admission Unit, - Professorial Unit.**

The Professorial Psychiatric Unit, G.F., Cork Regional Hospital, is a 50 bed Acute Admission Unit, of which 35 beds are in use at present. The Unit, which caters for admissions from the South Lee catchment area, is involved in both Under-Graduate and Post-Graduate medical teaching. The accreditation of most Psychiatric Units in the region is based on the Professorial Unit having such a function.

Up to 10 patients per day make use of the Acute Unit as a Day Hospital facility due to the reduced number of beds in use.

There were 571 admissions to the Unit in 1992 and the average daily attendance at the Day Hospital was 9.

A liaison service is provided from the Unit to the other departments at Cork Regional Hospital and St. Finbarr's Hospital and liaison psychiatry is seen as being an important area of development of the Psychiatric Services.

All of the sector Consultant Psychiatrists attached to the South Lee catchment area attend at the Professorial Unit.

## LONG-STAY PSYCHIATRIC ACCOMMODATION

**St. Catherine's Unit, St. Finbarr's Hospital.**

This Unit, which is located in the grounds of St. Finbarr's Hospital, accommodates 26 former residents of Our Lady's Hospital.

An extensive programme of rehabilitation/activation is carried out daily for the residents of the Unit. These activities were extended outdoor to a green area at the rear of the Unit in 1992.

During 1992 some residents of the Unit progressed to Hostel accommodation in the community.

Occupational therapy equipment was purchased for the Unit through national lottery funding in 1992. Bed rails and screens were also installed in the dormitory area to give the patients more privacy.

**St. Monica's Unit, St. Finbarr's Hospital**

This Unit accommodates 18 former long-stay residents of Our Lady's Hospital who transferred to the facility in December 1990.

Some of the residents attend at St. Catherine's Unit for rehabilitation/activation purposes on a daily basis. During 1992 bed rails and curtains were also provided in the bedrooms in order to give the residents more privacy.

**Heatherside Hospital, Buttevant.**

At the 31st December 1992, there were 119 patients resident in this Psycho-Geriatric Hospital which is attended by a Consultant Psychiatrist from the South Lee catchment area team.

Occupational therapy activities continued at the Hospital in 1992 under the direction of an Occupational Therapist.

During 1992 there were 16 admissions to the Hospital and a total of 27 discharges, including deaths.

**Intensive Care Unit.**

This type of accommodation is provided for the South Lee catchment area on a shared basis in a 40 bed facility (20 male and 20 female) at Our Lady's Hospital. 20 of the beds are used for acute and 20 for long-stay intensive care patients. A structured programme of activities is carried out at the Unit and this also involves outdoor activities.

## Day Hospitals

**Ravenscourt Day Hospital, Douglas Road, Cork.**

This 30 place Day Hospital, which is situated in the grounds of St. Finbarr's Hospital, had an average daily day attendance of 24 during 1992. The total number of attendances at the Day Hospital for the year was 6,221.

**Day Hospital G.F. Unit, Cork Regional Hospital.**

A Day Hospital Service is provided at this Unit mainly due to the reduced number of beds in use. There are 10 places available at the Day Hospital and the average daily attendance was 9 in 1992.

## DAY CENTRES

**Proposed Day Centre, Bandon.**

A 20 place Day Centre to be located in Bandon is planned for the near future. This Day Centre is to be developed in conjunction with the Watergate Centre Committee, which is a local voluntary group. A second phase of the development will incorporate residential units.

**Day Centre, Cork City Centre**

Plans are being made to open a Day Centre at a location to be decided in Cork City Centre in 1993.

## OUT PATIENT CLINICS

The following outlines the location and number of Out-Patient Clinics which were attended by the South Lee Catchment Area Consultant Psychiatrists in 1992 :

| | |
|---|---|
| Cork Regional Hospital | 200 |
| Bandon | 12 |
| Kinsale | 12 |
| Ravenscourt Day Hospital | 46 |
| St. Finbarr's Hospital, Cork. | |

## HIGH SUPPORT HOSTELS.

### Glenmalure/Kilmourne, Blackrock Road, Cork

Much refurbishment work was carried out in this 20 bed facility in 1992 and this work will be continued in 1993. An intensive programme of rehabilitation/activation is carried out on a daily basis with the support of the staff at the Hostel.

Some of the residents of the Hostel progressed to independent living in the community in 1992 and these residents were replaced by people from the Catchment Areas Long Stay facilities.

In addition to the rehabilitation programme which is followed at the Hostel, an excellent Horticultural facility is also provided from the garden at the rear of the Hostel.

### Low/Medium Support Hostels and Community Residences.

The catchment area is served by Hostels at Oaklodge, Douglas Road, and Maple Place, Togher. Two residences in Ballincollig and one in Togher are also provided by the Cork Mental Health Association.

## PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE/SHELTERED WORKSHOP.

### Shanakiel Vocational Training Centre.

This facility is situated in the grounds of Our Lady's Hospital and was opened in December 1990. The centre provides pre-vocational training for 30 trainees in the areas of woodwork, mental work and secretarial services. A comprehensive skill base programme is carried out at the centre which is staffed by a Workshop Manager and Instructors. the centre qualifies for European Social Funding and places in it are available for trainees from the South Lee Catchment Area.

**Killeen Community Workshop.**

This sheltered workshop facility, which is situated in the grounds of our Lady's Hospital, operates on a five day week basis and had an average daily attendance of 62 during 1992.

Contract work along with some upholstery, furniture repair and painting is carried out at the workshop at which both in-patients and day attenders are catered for. Places in the workshop are available to people from the South Lee Catchment Area.

## VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS

A number of voluntary organisations, notably Alcoholics Anonymous, A.W.A.R.E., Cork Mental Health Association, G.R.O.W., The Samaritans, The Schizophrenia Association, The Watergate Centre and a number of other groups provide much welcomed assistance to the South Lee Catchment Area, Psychiatric Services.

# NORTH CORK CATCHMENT AREA - Population = 101,748

1. **ACUTE UNIT**
   St. Stephen's Hospital, Cork.

2. **LONG-STAY PSYCHIATRIC ACCOMMODATION**
   St. Stephen's Hospital, Cork.
   Mt. Alvernia Hospital, Mallow, Co. Cork.

3. **PSYCHO-GERIATRIC ACCOMMODATION**
   Mount Alvernia Hospital, Mallow.
   St. Stephen's Hospital, Cork (Senile Dementia).

4. **DAY HOSPITAL**
   St. Stephen's Hospital, Cork.

5. **DAY CENTRE**
   Mitchelstown Day Care Centre.

6. **OUT-PATIENT CLINICS**
   Fermoy Health Centre.
   Kanturk Health Centre.
   Mallow Health Centre.
   Charleville (Catherine McAuley Home)
   Blackpool Community Centre, Cork.
   St. Stephen's Hospital, Cork.

7. **LOW/MEDIUM SUPPORT HOSTEL**
   Ard-na-Greine (Grounds of St. Stephen's Hospital).
   Valley View House (Grounds of St. Stephen's Hospital).

8. **HOSTELS**
   Mount Brosna, Mayfield.
   Moher Crescent, Mitchelstown.

# Reports on Individual Hospitals

### Acute Psychiatric Admission Unit, St. Stephen's Hospital, Sarsfields Court, Glanmire.

The Acute Admission Unit for the North Cork catchment area is located in St. Stephen's Hospital, Sarsfields Court in two units, each containing 22 beds. Total admissions to St. Stephen's Hospital in 1992 numbered 722. The number of admissions to the Acute Unit was 620 of which 174 were first-time admissions.

Psycho-geriatric accommodation is also available at unit 2 and unit 8, floor 3, which accommodates 60 patients. A senile dementia facility located at unit 1, which originally accommodated 15 patients was expanded to 30 beds in 1989. It is a declassified unit, overseen by the Clinical Director in partnership with the Cork City geriatricians.

It is intended under the Seven Year Development Plan that Acute Admission service for the North Cork catchment area will transfer to a new Acute Admission Unit in Mallow.

### Mount Alvernia Hospital, Mallow.

Mount Alvernia Hospital is a long-stay Psycho-Geriatric Hospital with a maximum of 118 beds.

Total admissions to the Hospital in 1992 were 12, while the total number of in-patient days was 40,141.

### Long Stay Psychiatric Accommodation

There are presently 240 long-stay psycho-geriatric patients accommodated in St. Stephen's Hospital. 73 of these are West Cork patients and 167 patients are from the North Cork catchment area. Long-stay patients are transferred from Our Lady's Hospital when vacancies arise. There are 30 senile dementia patients in the hospital.

Mt. Alvernia Hospital accommodates 98 psycho-geriatric patients.

### Rehabilitation

The rehabilitation services in St. Stephen's Hospital are delivered in two areas in the hospital:

(a) **The Day Hospital (Recreation Area)** delivers programmes to the acute patients from the Admission Unit and also has approximately 22 patients attending on a daily basis under a continuing care therapy programme.

(b) **Unit** 7 delivers programmes to the long-stay patients in the hospital. The Unit has approximately 100 patients on the attendance record and has 50 to 60 patients attending on a daily basis.

## Community Facilities

### Mitchelstown Day Care Centre

This Centre, which has been operating since the 4th February, 1991, as a conjoint service between Psychiatric Services Programme and Community Care Programme, was officially opened by President Mary Robinson on the 11th December, 1991. The Centre caters for 350 to 400 attendances each month, with three days a week allocated to Psychiatric Services and two days a week to the Care of the Elderly Programme.

Provision of a minibus to transport people to and from the Centre has been a very important aspect of the development. This was largely achieved by the efforts of the voluntary bodies in Mitchelstown, who have also organised a rota of voluntary drivers and helpers for the Centre.

The Centre is also a community resource, providing information, advice and counselling on all aspects of psychiatric care. The Centre also offers a chiropody and a physiotherapy service and also acts as an Alzheimer's Respite Resource, usually on one day per week.

### Hostels.

(a) On the 2nd October, 1989 a new hostel, named Valleyview House, was opened in the grounds of St. Stephen's Hospital. Valleyview House, formerly Unit 6, accommodated 6 patients initially, prior to their transfer to the community. We are currently awaiting the commencement of phase two of its development, i.e. Medium Support Hostel for 12 residents.

(b) Hostel at Mount Brosna, Mayfield, housing five residents, was opened in February, 1990.

(c) Hostel housing four residents was opened at Moher Crescent, Mitchelstown, on 3rd October, 1990.

(d) Hostel housing five residents was opened in March 1991 at Ard-na-Greine, Sarsfields Court, Cork. It functions as a 5-bedded medium support hostel, as part of the continuing care programme. It is overseen by the sector community psychiatric nurse and occupational therapy staff from the rehabilitation training unit.

**Day Hospital Service at St. Stephen's Hospital:**

20 out-patients attend on a daily basis under a continuing Care Therapy Programme which includes access to pre-vocational training at Shanakiel Workshop, Cork.

**Voluntary Organisations**

A wide range of voluntary organisations including Alcoholics Anonymous, Cork Mental Health Association, GROW, St. Vincent De Paul, Schizophrenia Association and others provide much welcomed assistance to the catchment area Psychiatric Service.

# WEST CORK CATCHMENT AREA - Population = 44,893

1. **ACUTE UNIT**
   St. Anne's Hospital, Skibbereen.

2. **LONG-STAY PSYCHIATRIC ACCOMMODATION**
   St. Stephen's Hospital, Cork.
   St. Anne's Hospital, Skibbereen.

3. **DAY HOSPITAL**
   St. Anne's Hospital, Skibbereen.

4. **OUT-PATIENT CLINICS**
   Bantry.
   Castletownbere.
   Schull.
   Clonakilty.
   St. Anne's, Shanakiel, Cork.

5. **LOW/MEDIUM SUPPORT HOSTEL**
   St. Mary's Hostel, Skibbereen} on grounds of
   St. Anne's Hostel, Skibbereen} Psychiatric Unit
   Cois Cuan, Bantry.
   St. David's Hostel, Clonakilty.

6. **HOSTELS**
   Coach Street, Cork.
   Seskin Park, Bantry, Co. Cork.
   Derrymihan West, Castletownbere.

7. **COMMUNITY RESIDENCES**
   Droumleigh Close, Bantry, Co. Cork.
   Elmwood House, Skibbereen, Co. Cork.

8. **VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE/WORKSHOP**
   Skibbereen Horticultural Programme.
   The National Rehabilitation Board operate workshop services at St. Joseph's Workshop, Bantry (mentally handicapped) and Bantry Horticultural Centre with 7 places and 18 places allocated to the Psychiatric Service respectively.

### Acute Psychiatric Admission Unit, St. Anne's Hospital, Skibbereen.

The Acute Psychiatric Admission Unit is based on a free standing site in the grounds of St. Anne's District Hospital, Skibbereen. It serves a catchment area of 45,791. For operational purposes this catchment is divided into two sectors:

(1) North Western Peninsula (Bantry Sector)
(2) South Western Peninsula (Skibbereen Sector).

Consultant Psychiatrists and Community Psychiatric Nurses are allocated to specific sectors. It is a 16 bed Unit with 6 long-stay beds also provided. There were 395 admissions in 1992 of which 75 were new admissions. There were 398 discharges recorded in 1992 and the average daily occupancy was 22.

This Unit is scheduled for relocation to the County Hospital, Bantry, as a priority development. The present Admission Unit will be converted into a High Support Hostel to take 26 patients from St. Stephen's Hospital, Sarsfields Court.

The new Unit at Bantry will comprise 24 acute admission beds.

### Long-Stay Psychiatric Accommodation

The main long-stay bed accommodation for the West Cork area is in long-stay units at St. Stephen's Hospital.

There are at present 73 West Cork patients occupying long-stay beds at St. Stephen's Hospital. Of these 33 are under 60 years of age, and will transfer to facilities in West Cork

Of the 40 patients over 60 years, 15 are over 70 years, of whom seven are over 80 years.

## Community Facilities

### Coach Street Cork City

This is a domestic scale residence which the Health Board acquired from Cork Corporation. It opened on September 12th, 1988, and accommodates six West Cork patients formerly patients at Our Lady's Hospital.

### Derrymihan West, Castletownbere

This is a two place County Council terraced house which opened on 7th June, 1989. The residents came from Our Lady's Hospital.

**Seskin Park, Bantry**

This is a Low Support Hostel which was acquired from the County Council and opened on 20th October, 1987. The residents here were discharged from Our lady's Hospital.

**St. Anne's Hostel, Skibbereen**

This Hostel opened on the 10th August, 1988. Like all the Hostels they are integrated, continuing care facilities which have a consistent throughput of residents. At present it accommodates eight residents none of whom are the original occupants.

**St. Mary's Hostel, Skibbereen**

Opened on 3rd August, 1990, this Low Support Hostel facility has five occupants who came through the continuing care programme at the adjacent St. Anne's Hostel. They are overseen by the psychiatric nurse attached to St. Anne's Hostel.

**St. David's Hostel, Clonakilty**

Opened on 3rd December, 1990. It is occupied by six residents who came from various other Hostels in West Cork. It is overseen by one R.P.N. for the Clonakilty area who also carries a small case load covering Clonakilty town and its hinterland.

**Droumleigh Close No. 2 and No. 3.**

Towards the end of 1991 these two houses, formerly doctors quarters, were given over to the Psychiatric Service. The houses were in need of considerable upgrading to make them suitable for hostel accommodation.

Thanks to the combined efforts of the Psychiatric Programme, Community Care and Technical Services, the houses were upgraded to a high standard and opened as Low Support Hostels on June 23rd, 1992. Eight of the residents at Cois Cuan moved to No. 2 and No. 3 on that day (3 residents in No. 2 and 5 residents in No. 3).

**Cois Cuan.**

This low to medium Support Hostel closed on 23rd June in conjunction with the opening of houses no. 2 and no. 3 at Droumleigh Close. The plan was to upgrade this hostel in readiness for 10 patients from St. Stephen's Hospital. During the months of July/August other catchment areas used the hostel as a holiday home for patients in rehabilitation.

During September and October the hostel was painted and decorated and security at the rear was improved with the addition of two lockable side gates.

Cois Cuan re-opened on Monday 23rd November, 1992 when 10 patients moved from St. Stephen's Hospital. Because of increased patient dependency the hostel is now a Medium Support with supervised care.

**Elmwood House.**

The above facility opened for patients on Tuesday 24th November, 1992. It accommodates 11 patients from St. Stephen's Hospital. The facility is a Medium Support Hostel providing supervised care for the clients.

The residents attend occupational therapy at the O.T. Department attached to the Acute Unit on an organised basis.

**St. Josephs Workshop, Bantry**

Nine places are available to the Psychiatric Service, all of which are utilised. These nine places are the responsibility of the Community R.P.N. in the Bantry area. The workshop is run by the National Rehabilitation Board.

**Horticultural Training Centre, Donemark, Bantry**

This Training Centre, also run by the N.R.B., has 18 places for psychiatric patients and is also overseen by the community registered psychiatric nurse in Bantry. At present there are 21 persons on the books.

**Voluntary Organisations**

The catchment area team recognise the immense value of close liaison and collaboration with the Voluntary Sector. The involvement of groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon, Al-a-Teen, Cork Mental Health Association, A.W.A.R.E., St. Vincent de Paul and Care of the Elderly Association is much welcomed.

# KERRY CATCHMENT AREA - Population = 124,159

1. **ACUTE UNIT**
   Tralee General Hospital.
2. **LONG-STAY PSYCHIATRIC ACCOMMODATION**
   St. Finan's Hospital, Killarney.
3. **DAY HOSPITALS**
   Caherina House, Tralee.
   Avoca House, Killarney.
   Senan House, Listowel.
4. **DAY CENTRES**
   Rathmore.
   St. Anne's Hospital, Caherciveen.
   Dingle.
   Aspen House, Killarney.
5. **OUT-PATIENT CLINICS**
   Listowel District Hospital.
   Tralee General Hospital.
   Killarney Health Centre.
   Dingle District Hospital.
   Caherciveen District Hospital.
   Kenmare District Hospital.
6. **COMMUNITY RESIDENCES**
   Shanakiel, Tralee.
   Rathoonane, Monavalley, Tralee.
   New Street, Caherciveen.
   Woodview Park, Tarbert.
   Port Road, Killarney.
   Allman's Terrace, Killarney.
   Avondale House, Lewis Road, Killarney.
   Woodlawn Park, Killarney.
   Aspen House, Group Home, Killarney.
   Reen House, Killarney.
   Ross House, Killarney.
   Mangerton House, Killarney.
   Woodlawn Park, Killarney.
   Ardshanavolley, Killarney.
   Marian Terrace, Killarney.
   Dunloe Lodge, Plunkett Street, Killarney.
7. **PRE-VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES/WORKSHOPS**
   Industrial Therapy Unit, St. Finan's Hospital.
   Ross Products, Killarney.
   Coolgrane Training Centre, Killarney.

# Reports on Individual Hospitals

## Acute Unit, Tralee General Hospital

A major advance took place when the 50-bed acute psychiatric unit opened in Tralee General Hospital in May 1991. From May 1991 to December 1991 a total of 547 patients were treated in this unit. The number of admissions there for the 12 months ended 31st December 1992, was 858, of which 277 were first admissions. This represents an average length of stay of 18.5 days and an average daily occupancy of 88%. 48 patients were resident at 31st December, 1992. The county is divided into four sectors with a fixed number of acute beds assigned to each sector.

The operation of an Acute Psychiatric Unit in a General Hospital environment is in line with policy on the development of a modern Psychiatric Service and the opening of the Unit is a very welcome development.

The transfer of the facility from St. Finan's Hospital, Killarney, has enabled the Board to improve the position with regard to patient accommodation at that Hospital by transferring patients from the main Hospital to the former Acute Unit which is a free standing single storey building on the campus.

## St. Finan's Hospital, Killarney, Co. Kerry.

At present, there are 265 patients in the main building in St. Finan's Hospital, Killarney. A further 50 patients are accommodated inn the former Admission Unit ( O'Connor Home ) . Of the 265 patients in the main building, 50 are mentally handicapped. The total number of patients in St. Finan's Hospital on 1st January, 1992 was 367. The reduction of 102 was brought about by the discharge of:

(a) 50 psycho-geriatric patients to former Admission Unit.
(b) 12 patients to Cherryfield Rehabilitation Hostel.
(c) 4 mentally handicapped patients to houses owned by Kerry Parents and Friends of the Mentally Handicapped.
(d) 30 deaths.
(e) 6 other discharges.

A program of decoration and upgrading of mainly ground floor wards was continued during 1992. Some bathrooms and toilets were also upgraded to cater for the more seriously disabled and elderly patients.

There were a total of 81 admissions to St. Finan's during 1992. 43 of these were transfers from the Psychiatric Admission Unit at Tralee General Hospital, 23 were technical admissions leaving a balance of 15 others. The number resident at 21/12/92 had fallen to 317 of which 3 (0.94%) were short-stay (under 3 months), 10 (3.15%) were medium-stay (3-12 months) and the remaining 304 (86.45%) were long-stay (over 1 year). There were a total of 27 deaths during 1992.

# Community Facilities

## Day Hospitals

### Caherina House Day Hospital, Tralee

Caherina House opened in 1978 as a Day Hospital. There are 25 places available and the average daily attendance during 1992 was 18. There was a total of 4,556 attendances at the Day Hospital with an average length of stay of 33 days. Currently the facility also serves as a day centre. This arrangement is not regarded as the most appropriate in a large urban setting with considerable numbers availing of both facilities in the one premises. It is proposed that Caherina House will continue to be used as a day hospital and that the Day Centre for Tralee will be relocated in the ground floor of St. Catherine's Convent, Rathass, which will become vacant in 1993.

### Avoca House Day Hospital, Killarney

Avoca House Day Hospital is situated in Countess Grove, Killarney. The Day Hospital was previously centred at Aspen House but at the end of 1992 was transferred to Avoca House. Aspen House is now running as a Day Centre and a Group Home. There are 20 places available and the average daily attendance during 1992 was 11.

### Senan House Day Hospital, Listowel

The facility was officially opened on the 19th March, 1991.

The Day Hospital serves as the Sector Headquarters for the North Kerry Sector of the Psychiatric Service. The Day Hospital provides 20 places and caters for a sector population of approximately 23,000 people. The facility caters for a number of acute and also former long-stay clients who would possibly require in-patient treatment but for the availability of the Day Hospital.

The Day Hospital is in line with Developments in psychiatry whereby the service is extending from the Hospitals to the local community.

There was an average daily attendance during 1992 of 10. There was a total of 2,511 attendances with an average length of stay of 46 days.

## Day Centres

### Caherciveen Day Centre

This Centre has 14 places and an average daily attendance of 13.

The activities carried out there include up-holstering, catering and gardening. The provision of a training centre for persons with mental illness is under consideration for this area.

### Rathmore Day Centre

There are 10 places available with an average attendance of 9.

Rathmore Social Action Group made the premises available to the Psychiatric Services in Kerry as a day centre. The centre is used as a combined day care centre for psychiatric services and the elderly.

It operates on a five day week basis from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Currently there are 15 persons attending the Psychiatric Day Centre.

### Dingle Day Centre

There are 9 places available with an average attendance of 6.

It is intended that in 1993, the Day Centre for Dingle will be re-located in the ground floor of the former convent attached to the District Hospital. The transfer is necessary because the normal activities associated with a Day Centre can not be carried out in the premises in Green Street for the number requiring the service. The Board is extremely grateful to West Kerry Care of the Aged Committee for allowing the use of its premises as a Day Centre and for placing all of its facilities there at the Board's disposal.

## High-Support Hostels:

### Cherryfield Rehabilitation Hostel

This consists of the first floor of the former Isolation Hospital. The accommodation here consists of 20 places. It opened in November 1992. 12 patients were discharged from St. Finan's Hospital and the remaining places were filled by admissions from the community who would benefit by a period of residence in this type of Hostel. A voluntary association known as the Kerry Association for Psychiatric Patient Support has established a Social Centre in this Hostel.

### High Support Hostel, Caherciveen

Towards the end of 1992, work commenced on the re-furbishing of the first floor of Caherciveen District Hospital. This work is expected to be completed before the end of March. There is accommodation there for 14 residents. It is proposed to fill these places by discharging 14 patients from St. Finan's Hospital who are from the Caherciveen catchment area.

### St. Catherine's Convent, Tralee

It is expected that St. Catherine's Convent, Tralee, which is owned by the Board, will become vacant in 1993. A planning application to Tralee Urban District Council is being prepared with a view to using the premises as a Day Centre and as a High Support Hostel.

There is accommodation for about 20 residents in the first floor of the Convent. Some fire-precaution work and minor internal alterations will be required to render the premises suitable as a High Support Hostel.

It is proposed that the 20 places will be filled by the discharge of patients from St. Finan's Hospital who are from the Tralee Catchment area.

**Former Convent, Dingle District Hospital**

The Convent attached to Dingle District Hospital became vacant in the latter half of 1992. The ground floor is now being used as a Psychiatric Day Centre. The first floor is suitable for use as a High Support Hostel. It could accommodate 10 to 12 residents. Fire-precaution work and some minor structural alterations will be required to be carried out in order to make it suitable as a High Support Hostel.

## WORKSHOPS/TRAINING CENTRES

**Industrial Therapy Unit**

An Industrial Therapy Unit is located in St. Finan's Hospital. Activities that are carried out include woodwork, knitting, sewing, basket making, crafts, etc. These skills are provided for the purpose of preparing participants for open employment. In-patients and discharged persons attend. It caters for 55 approximately.

**Ross Products**

The sheltered workshop, run by Ross Products, was established in 1972 by Kerry Mental Health Association and it is a profit making enterprise. It mainly consists of assembling cardboard boxes. Both in-patients and discharged persons attend.

**Coolgrane Training Centre, Killarney**

The former St. Anne's Isolation Hospital which had been closed since mid 1987 was completely refurbished to accommodate the Pre-Vocational Training Centre which opened to clients on 1st August, 1991. The total number of training days for 1992 was 5,991 with an average daily attendance of 20. Training programmes include woodwork, horticulture, crafts, catering, life skills, office and domestic skills. The Centre is staffed by a Manager and three Instructors.

## Table No. 52
## SCHEDULE OF OUT PATIENT PSYCHIATRIC CLINICS

| North Lee | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| St. Anne's Hospital, Shanakiel | 249 | 249 | 250 | 250 |
| Health Centre, Cobh. | 11 | 12 | 11 | 12 |
| Health Centre, St. Mary's Ortho Hosp, Gurranabraher, Cork. | 2 | 23 | 25 | 22 |
| Our Lady of Lourde's Hospital, Midleton | 11 | 12 | 11 | 11 |
| St. Raphael's Hospital, Youghal | 12 | 12 | 11 | 10 |
| Gougane Barra House, Western Road, Cork | 12 | 9 | 9 | 7 |
| St. Colman's Hospital, Macroom | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| Rehabilitation Clinic, St. Anne's Hospital, Shanakiel | 36 | 40 | 38 | 41 |
| **TOTAL** | **365** | **369** | **367** | **365** |
| **South Lee** | | | | |
| G.F. Unit, Cork Regional Hospital | 138 | 192 | 191 | 200 |
| Bandon | 10 | 11 | 12 | 12 |
| Kinsale | 10 | 9 | 12 | 12 |
| Day Hospital, St. Finbarr's Hospital | 49 | 49 | 48 | 46 |
| **TOTAL** | **207** | **261** | **263** | **270** |
| **North Cork** | | | | |
| Fermoy | 22 | 24 | 23 | 24 |
| Mallow | 12 | 11 | 23 | 20 |
| Blackpool | 40 | 44 | 42 | 44 |
| Kanturk | 24 | 24 | 24 | 23 |
| Charleville | - | - | - | 11 |
| St. Stephen's Hospital | 51 | 51 | 51 | 51 |
| **TOTAL** | **161** | **161** | **163** | **173** |
| **West Cork** | | | | |
| Skibbereen | 49 | 50 | 50 | 50 |
| Bantry | 23 | 23 | 23 | 24 |
| Schull | 24 | 24 | 23 | 23 |
| Castletownbere | 24 | 24 | 24 | 23 |
| Clonakilty | 23 | 23 | 23 | 23 |
| St. Anne's Hospital, Shanakiel (West Cork Clinics) | 48 | 51 | 50 | 52 |
| **TOTAL** | **191** | **195** | **193** | **195** |
| **Kerry** | | | | |
| Listowel | 47 | 49 | 51 | 51 |
| Tralee East | 50 | 50 | 49 | 49 |
| Dingle | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| Tralee West | 50 | 49 | 50 | 50 |
| Killarney West | 23 | 24 | 24 | 23 |
| Killarney East | 46 | 45 | 45 | 48 |
| Kenmare | 26 | 25 | 26 | 25 |
| Caherciveen | 25 | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| **TOTAL** | **293** | **293** | **296** | **297** |

**Table No. 53**

**GENERAL OVERVIEW OF SERVICES 1990/1991/1992**

| HOSPITAL USAGE | NORTH LEE | SOUTH LEE | NORTH CORK | WEST CORK | KERRY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. of admissions in 90 | 929 | 521 | 764 | 446 | 673 |
| No. of admissions in 91 | 961 | 588 | 778 | 426 | 864 |
| No. of admissions in 92 | 943 | 607 | 704 | 395 | 939 |
| per 1000 of } 1990 | 8.1 | 3.5 | 7.5 | 9.2 | 5.4 |
| population } 1991 | 8.4 | 3.9 | 7.6 | 9.5 | 6.9 |
| } 1992 | 8.3 | 4.1 | 7.0 | 8.9 | 8.2 |

**Table No. 54**

| | YEAR | OUR LADYS | G.F. C.R.H. | *ST. STEP. | ST. A SKIBB. | ST. F KILL. | AC.UN. TRALEE | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New admissions | 1990 | 262 | N/R | 201 | 99 | 144 | --- | --- |
| | 1991 | 271 | 186 | 213 | 93 | 60 | 182 | 1,005 |
| | 1992 | 263 | 138 | 174 | 75 | --- | 277 | 927 |
| Re-admissions | 1990 | 667 | N/R | 563 | 347 | 529 | --- | --- |
| | 1991 | 690 | 402 | 552 | 333 | 257 | 365 | 2,599 |
| | 1992 | 680 | 433 | 518 | 320 | 81 | 556 | 2,588 |
| Discharges | 1990 | 1120 | 522 | 676 | 444 | 660 | --- | 3,422 |
| | 1991 | 1120 | 574 | 770 | 423 | 351 | 470 | 3,708 |
| | 1992 | 977 | 566 | 684 | 398 | 87 | 845 | 3,557 |
| Deaths | 1990 | 22 | --- | 31 | --- | 37 | --- | 90 |
| | 1991 | 28 | 1 | 30 | --- | 34 | --- | 93 |
| | 1992 | 23 | 1 | 12 | --- | 27 | --- | 63 |

* **Unit 1 not included**

**N/R = not recorded**

## Table No. 55
## COMMUNITY PSYCHIATRIC FACILITIES

| | NORTH LEE | SOUTH LEE | NORTH CORK | WEST CORK | KERRY |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| No. of attendances at clinics in 1990 | 5504 | 3070 | 3260 | 2922 | 4127 |
| No. of attendances at clinics in 1991 | 5764 | 3290 | 3624 | 3154 | 4392 |
| No. of attendances at clinics in 1992 | | | 4224 | 3237 | 4567 |
| No. of new attendances at clinics in 1990 | 281 | 245 | 249 | 46 | 200 |
| No. of new attendances at clinics in 1991 | 273 | 286 | 230 | 67 | 201 |
| No. of new attendances at clinics in 1992 | 276 | 248 | 253 | 80 | 228 |
| No. of Hostels in 1990 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 13 |
| No. of Hostels in 1991 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 16 |
| No. of Hostels in 1992 | | | 3 | 8 | 16 |
| No. of Hostel places '90 | 22 | 35 | 14 | 47 | 67 |
| No. of Hostel places '91 | 35 | 41 | 15 | 47 | 74 |
| No. of Hostel places '92 | 34 | 41 | 13 | 55 | 69 |

# SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH MENTAL HANDICAP

The Board provides residential care for adults with mental handicap at St. Raphael's Hospital, Youghal, Grove House,Cork St. Colman's Hospital, Macroom and St. Finan's Hospital, Killarney. A significant feature of the service overall, however, is the extent of the involvement of voluntary and religious groups, either grant-aided by the Board or direct funded by the Department of Health, who provide an extensive range of day and residential care for adults and children.

The most recent national policy on the service is outlined in the report on Mental Handicap Services - "Needs and Abilities, A Policy for the Intellectually Disabled" - published in 1991. The report confirms many of the principles which underlie the present provision of services for people with a mental handicap and urges the accelerated development of a comprehensive and co-ordinated service on a localised basis throughout the country. Of particular interest to the Board are the recommendations in the report regarding people with a mental handicap in Psychiatric Hospitals. It has been the policy that persons with a mental handicap should not be admitted to Psychiatric Hospitals and the report endorses this policy and recommends that persons who are inappropriately accommodated in Psychiatric Hospitals should be transferred to a more suitable environment.

The Programme for Economic and Social Progress, also published in 1991, responded to the need to develop the service, as outlined in "Needs and Abilities" by a commitment to provide development funds over a seven year period. The Board and the voluntary agencies established new working relationships to co-ordinate the future planning of the service. A Seven Year Development Plan, incorporating the proposals of all the agencies was drawn up and published at the end of 1991 outlining developments required during the period 1992 - 1998 in order to have a complete or "ideal" service at the end of the planning period. The proposed developments amount to an additional investment in the service of £29m [£18m capital and £11m revenue] over the seven year period 1992 - 1998.

The Department of Health allocated £490,000 revenue on foot of the plan in 1992 as follows:-

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | S.H.B. | Occupational/Activation service for St. Raphael's Hospital, Youghal. | £204,500 |
| 2. | K.P.F.M.H. | Two 7 day Group Homes in Killarney | £120,000 |
| 3. | St. Patrick's Upton. | Psychologist | £ 19,000 |
| 4. | Brothers of Charity. | Establishment of Pre-School Clinic, Listowel. | £ 6,500 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5. | St. John of God Brothers, Assistant Community Facilitator. Tralee. | Weekend relief system - | £ 10,000 |
| 6. | St. Mary of the Angels, Beaufort. | Weekend relief service and Summer Camp. | £23,000 |
| 7. | St. Joseph's Workshop, Bantry. | Community Nurse and recreation scheme. | £ 23,000 |
| 8. | Charleville & District Assoc. Camp. for Handicapped | Community Nurse and Summer | £ 23,000 |
| 9. | Cork Assoc. for Autistic Children | Summer residential scheme [six weeks] and weekend service. | £ 15,000 |
| 10. | Brothers of Charity, Lota. | Home-link and home visiting service. | £ 23,000 |
| 11. | COPE FOUNDATION | Community Nurse and extended recreational scheme. | £23,000 |
| | | **TOTAL** | **£490,000** |

In addition, a sum of £140,000 capital was provided to K.P.F.M.H. for hostel accommodation.

The process of the annual review of the plan to establish revised priorities for 1993 was well underway at the end of the year.

A report on the individual centres in the Board's service follows.

# Reports on Individual Centres

**St. Raphael's Hospital, Youghal, Co. Cork.**

At the 31st December, 1992, the hospital accommodated 217 mentally handicapped adult residents, 131 of whom were male and 86 female. 37% of the resident population are aged 20/44 years, 48% are 45/64 years, 9% are 65/74 years and 6% are aged 75 years and over.

During 1992 work was underway to prepare areas designated as Activation Units. Structural repairs were carried out on two units, particularly to facilitate the movement of less ambulant residents. Additional staff were appointed to the hospital in 1992 from development monies received under the terms of the Programme for Economic and Social Progress. A new activation unit was opened catering for 35/40 of the residents.

Residents of the hospital participated in the Munster Special Olympics Bowling and Swimming events in 1992 and the purchase of a minibus will greatly facilitate participation in such events in the future.

In January 1992 an activation unit was opened in the grounds of the hospital and this unit provides contract work, art and cookery classes, swimming and bowling and other activities for 40 residents.

In February 1992 Bayview Hostel opened and this facility can accommodate 12 persons, all of whom are former residents of St. Raphael's Hospital. Basic skills are taught including personal hygiene, cookery with other life skills such as use of public facilities, post office and library being incorporated into the daily schedule.

A second in-service training course was successfully completed in 1992 with 20 members of the general trained nursing staff receiving certificates in "Aspects of Mental Health".

Bawnard Vocational Training Centre is situated on the grounds of the hospital and provides training for 20 people in woodwork, metal work, picture framing and concrete products, with assistance from the European Social Fund.

**Grove House Mental Handicap Unit, Gurranabraher, Cork**

This unit accommodates 38 severely disturbed mentally handicapped adults who were formerly resident in the Grey Building at Our Lady's Hospital. A number of respite beds are incorporated in the facility and an Occupational Therapy building is in use at the rear of the main building.

A varied programme of activities is provided for the residents including horse riding, swimming and ten pin bowling. A group of residents went on holidays to a house in Newmarket, Co. Cork, in 1992.

A number of residents of Grove house commenced a rehabilitation training programme in 1992 with a view to preparing them for High Support Hostel accommodation in the community.

It is expected that a further group of residents will be facilitated with workshop activities by L'Arche in the near future.

**St. Finan's Hospital, Killarney, Co. Kerry.**

There were 50 mentally handicapped adults accommodated at St. Finan's Hospital on 31st December, 1992.

During 1992 four residents were discharged, from the hospital to houses in the Killarney area. These houses were provided by the Kerry Parents & Friends of the Mentally Handicapped. This development was in accordance with the Board's Seven Year Plan for Services for Persons with Mental Handicap.

A rehabilitation programme for the mentally handicapped at the hospital was initiated during 1992 with equipment for this programme being provided by K.A.P.P.S A designated area of the hospital was set aside as an activation area and the outdoor play area was upgraded.

The Kerry Parents & Friends of the Mentally Handicapped have agreed to provide a minibus for outings for the mentally handicapped at St. Finan's Hospital.

A small number of residents availed of an occupational therapy service at the Old Monastery, Killarney, a facility operated by K.P.F.M.H.

**St. Colman's Hospital, Macroom, Co. Cork.**

This unit accommodates 11 mentally handicapped adults with varying degrees of disturbance. It is intended that the residents will transfer to more suitable accommodation, either in other mental handicap centres or alternatively in Hostel accommodation. It is hoped that this process will commence in the near future.

**Mentally Handicapped Adults in Psychiatric Facilities**

A number of mentally handicapped adults are in-appropriately accommodated in the Board's Psychiatric and Psycho-Geriatric facilities in the Cork area. Some progress has been made in transferring these residents to more appropriate accommodation. This work was on-going in 1992 and will continue in the coming year with the emphasis mainly on the provision of Hostel type accommodation.

# PERSONNEL REPORT

## Personnel Report :

The following outlines the activity of the Personnel Department during 1992.

| STAFF COMPLEMENT 1992 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Nursing** | Non-Nursing | **Admin** | **Para-Medical** | **Medical Dental** | **Others** | **TOTAL** |
| 2,895.20 | 1,729.13 | 703.67 | 391.96 | 462.92 | 224.92 | 6,407.80 |

### Recruitment/Selection:

With the exception of some service management and professional posts, which are recruited by the Local Appointments Commission, all other vacancies are recruited by the Board. Positions are advertised in national and local newspapers and, where appropriate, in national and international journals. The recruitment phase involves the preparation of a Job Description, the placing of an advertisement, the preparation of application forms and their issue to prospective candidates. The information on completed and returned application forms must be examined to ensure that the applicants fulfil the education and/or experience requirements of the post.

The selection phase involves the nomination of Interview Board members by the Chief Executive Officer, and where there are very large number of applications the Interview Board may first shortlist a number of these applications for interview. Candidates for interview are then allocated times and dates and informed of the interview location. After the interview those candidates deemed successful at interview will, subject to reference, health and education checks, be appointed or placed on a panel. Candidates who were unsuccessful are informed as quickly as possible.

| INTERVIEWS/APPOINTMENTS | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Medical Dental** | **Nursing** | **Student Nurses** | **Non-Nursing Other** | **Admin** | **Para-Medical** | **TOTAL** |
| **Interviews** | 55 | 16 | 1 | 16 | 13 | 18 | 119 |
| **Applicants** | 2228 | 446 | 1015 | 476 | 183 | 288 | 4636 |
| **Appointments** | 169 | 73 | 98 | 35 | 17 | 27 | 419 |

### Job-Sharing/Career Breaks:

There are now 560 staff on job-sharing arrangements and 356 on career breaks.

**Resignations/Retirements:**

**Superannuation:**

There was a total of 276 awards/refunds made during the year, amounting to a total of £2,288,387.01

**Industrial Relations:**

This unit deals with matters such as grievance or discipline and can involve contacts with individual employees, the Trade Union, or the local Line Management or Senior Management. A major element of this work involves clarifying employee entitlements and obligations and the provision of discreet support and advice to Line Managers/Supervisors. In addition there is the more formal activity involving liaison with the Departments of Health and Labour, with the Local Government Staff Negotiations Board, and with Unions, Labour Court hearings, etc. The following is a summary of the meetings which were held in 1992:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Meetings with Unions/Staff Associations | - | 60 |
| Full Labour Court Hearings | - | 6 |
| Conciliation Conferences | - | 12 |
| Rights Commissioners | - | 3 |
| Staff Negotiations Board | - | 7 |

**Training and Education:**

During this year training was provided in a variety of locations on subjects including word processing, lotus 123, Database, customer relations and lifting techniques. The Board has financially supported the provision of nurse study days which are organised by the Cork/Kerry Nurse Education Committee. The Board has also grant aided students who are pursuing third level qualifications. The Board also provided a block grant to U.C.C. in support of their Behaviour Therapy and Professional Studies courses which staff from the psychiatric services completed.

**General:**

During the year following prolonged and difficult negotiations with the unions involved, the Board revised the Sick Pay Scheme to remove an anomaly whereby many staff were financially better off while on sick leave.

The updating of the Personnel Policy Guidelines and the development of an Employee Handbook commenced.

# FINANCE REPORT

## Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1992

The 1992 non-capital allocation originally amounted to IR£166.803m. This was subsequently increased to IR£178.514m. The main components of the additional allocations are as follows:-

| | IR£M |
|---|---|
| Pay Increases | 7.346 |
| Demand Led Schemes | 2.737 |
| Mental Handicap | 0.378 |
| HIB Vaccine | 0.512 |
| Medical Indemnity Costs | 0.724 |
| Other | 0.014 |
| **Total** | **11,711** |

Unaudited results for the year ended 31st December, 1992 indicate actual net expenditure of IR£181.192m, resulting in over-expenditure of IR£2.678m. The pay overrun of £0.512m arose primarily in the acute hospitals as a result of increased activity prevailing throughout the year.

Non-pay over-expenditure can be attributed to a number of factors. Demand Led Schemes, (e.g. Drug Refund Schemes, DPMA payments) exceeded budget by IR£0.300m. Activity and price increases resulted in overruns on drugs, appliances, blood, cleaning and sanitation, bedding and clothing, travel expenses and telecommunications.

Income generated during 1992 exceeded budgeted levels. Patient income amounted to IR£9.2m, an increase of IR£1m on 1991 levels. Income received from sales, telephone receipts and other sources also performed well during the year.

As in past years, cash flow management continued to be a priority. The overdraft limit for 1992 was IR£4.7m and constant monitoring was required to ensure that this limit was not exceeded.

| Non-Capital Expenditure 1992 | |
|---|---|
| | **IR£m** |
| Allocation notified per Department of Health letter dated 24th December, 1991: | 166.803 |
| Add approved increases during the year: | 11.711 |
| | **178.514** |
| Add over-expenditure 1992 | 2.678 |
| Nett Expenditure in 1992 on Health & Welfare Services: | 181.192 |
| Add Income: | 18.987 |
| Gross Expenditure in 1992 on Health & Welfare Services: | 200.179 |

# TECHNICAL SERVICES

# MAINTENANCE:

## Scope:

The buildings plant and services used and maintained by the Southern Health Board have a replacement value in excess of £400m. The annual maintenance budget is £3.953m or about 1% of the replacement value.

It has been possible to date, by careful management of these very scarce resources, to maintain the Board's physical assets in a functional and safe condition. However, it must be acknowledged that these assets are deteriorating and that substantial investment is needed to secure them for the future. The Department of Health made a special allocation of £250,000 available to each Board in 1992 to clear some of the backlog of maintenance and it was possible to carry out a number of urgent replacement jobs on roofs, floors, windows and electrical installations.

## Organisation:

Technical responsibility for maintenance rests with the Board's Technical Services Department. The budget is allocated to individual locations in accordance with priorities based, in the first instance, on safety requirements followed by functional need, preservation of the assets and appearance.

The Board employs four Engineers who oversee the maintenance programme and the work is supervised locally by eight Maintenance Officers based convenient to the work locations. There is now a total of 195 maintenance staff employed by the Board throughout the region, the number having been reduced from 256.

## Contract Work:

The general reduction of staffing levels in recent years has resulted in an increasing proportion of maintenance and improvement works being carried out by contractors. Advertisements are placed in the local papers periodically inviting contractors interested in minor works to be included on the Board's panel and this system is working satisfactorily.

**Health & Safety Act 1989:**

The Southern Health Board has been actively involved, since the introduction of the Act, in the steps necessary to implement it. The Board's Parent Safety Statement has been completed and has been circulated to the various work locations throughout the region. This describes the Board's safety management programme and is being augmented by individual hospital and departmental statements at each substantial work location.

The Southern Health Board has been involved in meetings with representatives of staff at both national and local level to agree on the process of consultation between employees and management. These consultations are continuing and Safety Committees have been established in a number of locations including in Cork Regional Hospital, Our Lady's Hospital, Abbeycourt House, Tralee General Hospital and St. Finan's Hospital. Staff
Safety Representatives have also been elected in all locations in the region by agreement with staff organisations.

Two training seminars of three day duration have been held in Cork and Tralee in which all Staff Safety Representatives and Responsible Persons participated.

At National Level, the Board was represented on the Advisory Committee for the Health Services Sector which prepared a report for the Health & Safety Authority. This is of considerable assistance to those implementing the Act in the Health Services.

The Health Board is keeping Representatives of the Board's staff informed of progress in the implementation of the Act and while it is recognised that considerable progress has been made much work still needs to be done.

**Fire Safety:**

The Board has two posts of Fire and Safety Officer, one for the Kerry and West Cork areas and one for Cork City and the remainder of Cork County. Fire drills, instructions and inspections are carried out in all hospitals and institutions to maintain a high level of awareness of fire safety among staff. Fire plans are in place in all hospitals and staff are instructed on the contents of the plans and the procedures to be followed in the event of a fire.

During 1992, work was completed on the first phase of a comprehensive programme of work at Cork Regional Hospital to bring the building up to current standards. This work consisted mainly of the compartmentation of the building by the provision of additional doors and screens and the upgrading of some existing doors. The remaining phases will provide the Hospital with fire detectors and alarm systems to modern standards.

There are ongoing improvements on a priority basis to fire precautions in the Board's hospitals and institutions and the Board is in frequent contact with the Fire Authorities for advice and guidance in this regard.

## Energy:

The energy bill for the Southern Health Board in 1992 was £2,337m compared to £2,554m in 1991.

The Board has an ongoing programme of energy management and the advanced technology measures taken to date have all been funded from savings in the energy budget within a two year period of installation.

There are now computerised energy management systems in five hospitals, namely Cork Regional Hospital, Tralee General Hospital, Bantry General Hospital, St. Stephen's Hospital and Erinville Hospital. These facilitate better control and distribution of energy and are contributing substantially to the reduction in costs.

Work was completed on the conversion of Dingle Hospital from solid fuel to gas oil and further decentralisation of boiler facilities took place at St. Mary's Orthopaedic Hospital. Upgrading of the boiler plant took place at St. Raphael's Hospital, Youghal and new boilers were installed in Heatherside Hospital and the Erinville Hospital.

# MANAGEMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

# Overview of 1992

The Management Services Department is responsible for the development and implementation of information technology throughout the Board.

1992 saw the beginning of major developments in the areas of Hospital and Patient based systems. The selection of replacement systems in Cork Regional Hospital and Tralee General Hospital commenced with the issuing of detailed operational requirements to suppliers of Hospital Systems. The responses to the requirements are now the subject of detailed examination by the Management Services Department and staff from the operational areas. It is essential that these systems are replaced as they are rapidly approaching the end of their operational life span.

In addition to the replacement of systems work continued with the user departments to develop and enhance the existing large system base. In particular the development of the Board's telecommunications network has provided access to users in the major administrative centres throughout Cork and Kerry.

The introduction of P.C.s to support clerical and administrative functions continued in 1992 . Work is continuing on the introduction of systems capable of running on the P.C. Networks.

1992 also saw the completion of the move from the Central Government Computer Bureau to computer systems designed and developed by the Southern Health Board and possessed within the Board's own computer facilities.

Systems areas in which developments took place in 1992 include :-

| | |
|---|---|
| Hospital Systems | Vaccination Systems |
| Payroll Management Systems | Community Care Systems |
| Stores/Inventory Management | Allowances and Payments |