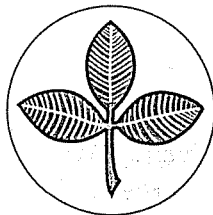


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NORTHERN AREA HEALTH BOARD

Bord Sláinte an Limistéir Thuaidh

May 2000

ach Comhalta den mBord

ara,

monthly meeting of the Northern Area Health Board will be held in the **Great Northern Hotel, (Malton Suite 2) Dublin Airport** on **Thursday 18th May, 2000** at **4.30 p.m.** Tea is arranged for 4.30pm.

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Chairpersons Business

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting held on 20th April 2000 and special meeting held on 10th May 2000 [copies herewith]

(a) Matters arising from minutes

Questions to the Chief Executive

Chief Executive's Report

Homelessness - An Integrated Strategy - Report No. 14/2000 [copy herewith]

Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme (under the National Development Plan) 2000-2006 - Report No. 15/2000 [copy herewith]

Immunisation Uptake Report - Report No. 16/2000 [copy herewith]

NORTHERN AREA HEALTH BOARD**Minutes of proceedings of 4th Board Meeting of the Northern Area Health Board****held in The Great Southern Hotel, Dublin Airport.****On Thursday, 18th May 2000 at 5.00p.m.***Present*

Cllr. C. Burke	Ald. I. Callely, T.D.
Mr. M. Cowley	Cllr. A. Devitt
Mr. J. Fallon	Ms. N. Harvey
Cllr. D. Heney	Mr. G. McGuire
Cllr. D. Murray	Dr. P. O'Connell
Cllr. M. O'Donovan	Mrs. C. Quinn
Cllr. R. Shortall, T. D.	Mr. L. Tuomey

In the Chair

Cllr. Anne Devitt

Apologies

Cllr. L. Creaven
Sen. Dr. D. Fitzpatrick
Ms. M. Hoban
Dr. B. Murphy

Officers in Attendance

Ms. M. Windle, Chief Executive
Mr. M. Walsh, Assistant Chief Executive
Mr. J. Lamont, Assistant Chief Executive
Ms. M. Kelly, Director Human Resources
Ms. N. Byrne, Communications Officer
Ms. O. Treacy, Board Secretary
Ms. M. Halpin, Secretariat

22/2000

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

The Chairman read the following report which was noted by the Board: -

1. Condolences

I am sure members will join with me in expressing sincere sympathy with those whose names that have been included on the list of condolences, which has been circulated to members.

2. Special Information Day

I would like members to agree with me a date for to facilitate arrangements for a workshop information session for members.

3. Community Services & Continuing Care Committee

I wish to remind members that the inaugural meeting of the Community Services & Continuing Care Committee will take place next Monday 22nd May 2000 at 5.00p.m. in Great Southern Hotel.

4. Episodic Illness and Primary Care Committee

I wish to remind members that the inaugural meeting of the Episodic Illness and Primary Care Committee will take place on Thursday 25th May 2000 at 5.00p.m. in the Boardroom, Dr Steevens'. It should be noted that this venue has changed since original agenda papers were distributed.

5. Launch – Eastern Regional Committee on Violence against Women

I would like to advise members that the Eastern Regional Committee on Violence against Women will launch their *Directory of Eastern Regional Service Provision* for women who experience violence on Tuesday 23rd May 2000 at 2.30p.m. in The Ashling Hotel, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8. All members are invited to attend and arrangements have been made to circulate invitations to members also.

6. No Smoking Day

I would like to inform members that Wednesday 31st May 2000, has been declared a No Smoking Day and to mark the occasion our Board has organised a function in Duffy's, Malahide Village, Co. Dublin on Tuesday 30th May 2000. All members are invited.

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23/2000**MINUTES OF MONTHLY BOARD MEETING HELD 8TH MARCH 2000 AND SPECIAL BOARD MEETING HELD ON 10TH MAY 2000**

Cllr. O'Donovan requested that the minutes of the special meeting held on 10th May 2000 be amended to record that he seconded the second motion of the meeting which has been proposed by Dr. Reilly. It was also agreed to note, that Mr. McGuire proposed the third motion that the Chief Executive recommendation be adopted. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Shortall. Following the result of the roll-call vote on the second motion it is noted that the third proposed motion fell.

Taking cognisance of these amendments the minutes were agreed.

24/2000**QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

On a proposal by Mr. G. McGuire, seconded by Cllr. D. Murray, it was agreed to answer the questions that had been lodged.

1. Cllr. Christy Burke

“To ask the Chief Executive if improvements can be made to ease the waiting lists for children on the waiting list for some years for orthodontic treatment”.

Reply

An action plan is currently being implemented to address the needs of children on the waiting lists for orthodontic treatment.

The main provisions of this action plan are as follows:

- The recruitment of two additional Consultant Orthodontists. A request has been sent to the Local Appointment's Commission to advertise both posts.
- The recruitment of a number of additional Orthodontic Specialists.
- The development of a new Regional Orthodontic Unit at St. Columcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown. It is planned to open this unit before the end of this year.
- The development of a new Regional Orthodontic Unit at Beaumont Hospital. It is anticipated that this unit will be open by the end of 2001.

These developments will facilitate each of the three Area Health Boards to develop its own consultant led orthodontic services. We are in discussions with the Eastern Regional Health Authority and the Department of Health and Children regarding interim arrangements for service developments pending the commissioning of the purpose built Orthodontic Unit at Beaumont Hospital.

2. **Cllr. Christy Burke**

“To ask the Chief Executive if the Northern Area Health Board would enter discussions with Dublin Corporation in order to sell off Summerhill Health Centre when the centre moves to the one stop shop at Sean McDermott Street.”

Reply

It is expected that the timescale for completion of the work necessary to facilitate the establishment of the one stop shop at Sean McDermott Street is 2 – 3 years. In the future the Northern Area Health Board intends to transfer some of the services currently provided through Summerhill Health Centre to its accommodation in the new facility under development jointly with Dublin Corporation at Sean McDermott Street. At that point it will be necessary to review our Board's ongoing requirements for community facilities in the area taking cognisance of any additional services, the expected growing demand and usage of health and personal social services in the North Inner City area. Having regard to the likely provision and demand for services there are no plans to dispose of the premises at Summerhill. However our Board would be most amenable to discussing future possible shared or joint use of the Summerhill premises with Dublin Corporation at any time.

3. **Cllr. Christy Burke**

“To ask the Chief Executive when improvement work of Health Centres on the North side will take place.”

Reply

Our Board operates a programme of ongoing maintenance and repair on all of its premises through contract works and direct labour. In the past year, works have been carried out at 19 locations in the Northern Area Health Board. It is recognised that more extensive works of refurbishment and upgrading are required in many of our older Health Centres in order to bring them up to an acceptable standard. A schedule of works, which includes upgrading and refurbishment works at all of the Northern Area Health Board health centres has been drawn up and submitted to the Eastern Regional Health Authority as part of the Board's proposals in relation to developments under the National Development Plan. When our Board's allocation is agreed, a schedule of health centre improvements will be included in a programme of prioritised works which will be submitted to the Board for approval.

4. **Cllr. Dermot Murray**

“To ask the Chief Executive of the Northern Area Health Board for a detailed progress report on talks the Board may have had in relation to the siting of an

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ambulance station in Balbriggan in order to provide ambulance cover for the towns and villages of North Fingal and in reporting will the Chief Executive clarify the following points in the report.

- (a) The expected time-scale for the establishment of such a service
- (b) To state if a suitable location had been identified within the town for the ambulance station
- (c) To indicate if the service is to provide twenty-four hour cover for the area

Reply

The Eastern Region Ambulance Service is currently seeking a site or premises in the Balbriggan area suitable for the construction or conversion to an Ambulance Station. To date two locations have been considered but have been found unsuitable.

Investigation and research are ongoing in the pursuance of a location for this purpose and when a suitable location is acquired it is intended to operate an emergency Ambulance Service in the Balbriggan Area. Our Board is also pursuing a site for a day facility for the physically disabled; both services could be sited together.

Provision will be made in the next year's Service Plan to acquire staff for the purpose of staffing this Ambulance Station on an 8.00am to 12 midnight basis, 7 days per week. This will be reviewed and the need will be evaluated to establish if a 24 hour service is required.

Emergency Ambulance Services in the Balbriggan area are provided via the Swords Ambulance Base. Occasionally service is provided by way of agreement with the North Eastern Health Board from Drogheda if the need for service is closer to Drogheda than Swords. Non-emergency patient transport is provided by private hire which is administered via Townsend Street.

25/2000

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

The following report from the Chief Executive was noted:

1. *Organ Inquiry*

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 4th April 2000 in which the Minister for Health and Children, Mr Micheál Martin, T.D., announced the details of the Inquiry to review post mortem examination policy, practice and procedure in the State since 1970.

2. *Non-Consultant Hospital Doctors threatened Industrial Action*

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 27th April 2000 in which Mr Micheál Martin, T.D., Minister for Health and Children noted the outcome of the ballot by Non-Consultant Hospital Doctor members of the Irish Medical Organisation in favour of industrial action.

3. *Food Safety Authority dispute*

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of letter dated 23rd March 2000 from Mr. Patrick Wall, Chief Executive, National Food Safety Authority which confirms that the supervision of Meat Retail, Fresh Meat, Minced Meat and Meat Processing Plants was transferred to Health Boards from Monday 17th April 2000.

4. *New Interim Body on Special Residential Care*

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 5th April 2000 in which Mary Hanafin T.D., Minister of State with Special Responsibility for Children announces the membership of the new Interim Body on special residential services.

5. *Vaccination against Measles*

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 4th April 2000 in which Mr Micheál Martin, T.D., Minister for Health and Children strongly urged all parents to ensure that their children are immunised against measles, in the light of the outbreak of this disease in the Dublin area this year.

Report No. 16/2000 on our agenda this evening outlines the immunisation uptake in our Boards region.

6. *Health Services Research Fellowships*

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 4th May 2000 in which the Minister for Health and Children, Mr Micheál Martin, T.D., announced, at the launch of Health Research Board's Health Services Research Fellowships and Clinical Research Fellowships in Nursing and Midwifery, increased capital funding for the Health Research Board to fund research equipment.

7. *Drinking Water Safety Guidelines*

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of our Board's report on *Drinking Water Safety Guidelines* which was prepared following investigation into the water supply at St. Ita's Hospital.

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8. *Fluoride in Drinking Water/Aluminium Monitoring in Drinking Water*

At the Chairperson's request a joint review was undertaken of (a) Fluoride in Drinking Water and (b) Aluminium monitoring in drinking water in the Fingal region. This review involved the Department of Public Health, the Principal Dental Surgeons and Environmental Health.

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting the findings following this review. Members may refer this report to the Standing Committee on Episodic Illness and Primary Care for consideration and report to the Board.

9. *Management Team Appointments*

I would like to introduce members to Mr. John Lamont, Assistant Chief Executive, whose appointment I advised you of at our Board meeting in April. Mr. Lamont commenced employment with our Board on 3rd May 2000.

Members will recall that I also advised you, at the April meeting, that the successful candidate for the post of Finance Director had been offered the post following interview. However, I regret to advise that this candidate has indicated that he will not be taking up the position and therefore this post will be re-advertised in the national press this weekend.

10. *Breakthrough in Junior Doctors Dispute*

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 16th May 2000 in which the Minister for Health and Children, Mr Micheál Martin, T.D., welcomes the agreement in talks between the Health Services Employers Agency and the Irish Medical Organisation.

11. *Nurses Degree Programme*

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of press release dated 12th May 2000 in which the Minister for Health and Children, Mr Micheál Martin, T.D., announces that the nurses doing degrees courses are to benefit from a £15m funding boost.

12. *Launch of Video "Pavee Beoir" and Presentation of Award to Pavee Point and the Eastern Regional Health Authority*

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting copies of the address by Dr. Tom Moffatt, T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Health and Children, dated 16th May 2000, which was given at the launch of the video "Pavee Beoir" which was developed by Pavee Point with the support of the Eastern Regional Health Authority.

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The Minister also presented the World Health Organisation 50th Anniversary Health for All Award to Pavee Point and the Eastern Regional Health Authority for the Primary Health Care for Travellers Project.

26/2000

HOMELESSNESS – AN INTEGRATED STRATEGY

Following a brief discussion to which Mr. Tuomey, Cllr. Burke, Ald. Callely, Ms. Harvey, Mrs. Quinn, Dr. O'Connell and the Chairman contributed, and to which the Chief Executive replied, it was agreed to refer Report No 14/2000 to the meeting of the Community Services and Continuing Care Committee on Monday 22nd May 2000.

27/2000

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES CHILDCARE PROGRAMME (UNDER THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN0) 2000-2006

The Chief Executive outlined details of the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme 2000-2006 for members' information. Following a discussion to which Mrs Quinn and Cllr. O'Donovan contributed it was agreed to note the report.

28/2000

IMMUNISATION UPTAKE

The Chief Executive presented Report No. 16/2000 on the matter of Immunisation Uptake. A discussion followed to which Dr. O'Connell, Mrs. Quinn, Ms. Harvey, Mr. McGuire, Ald. Callely, Mr. Fallon, Cllr. O'Donovan and the Chairman contributed and to which the Chief Executive replied. The report was noted.

29/2000

DUBLIN ACCIDENT & EMERGENCY STEERING GROUP REPORT ON VIOLENCE AND AGGRESSION IN ACCIDENT & EMERGENCY

It was agreed to refer Report No. 17/2000 to the Episodic Illness and Primary Care Committee.

30/2000

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND CONTINUING CARE COMMITTEE – MEMBERSHIP

Report No. 18/2000 (copy filed with official minute) was approved on a proposal by Mr. Fallon seconded by Mr. McGuire.

31/2000

EPISODIC ILLNESS AND PRIMARY CARE COMMITTEE – MEMBERSHIP

Report No. 19/2000 (copy filed with official minute) was approved on a proposal by Dr. O'Connell seconded by Cllr. Burke.

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32/2000**FINANCE & PROPERTY COMMITTEE – MEMBERSHIP**

Following consideration of Report No. 20/2000, members' request that the report be amended to allow for a core group (a) membership of 5 was agreed.

Subsequently the following members were nominated and agreed for appointment as members of core group (a) of the Finance & Property Committee

1. Cllr. Devitt
2. Cllr. Burke
3. Mr. Cowley
4. Ald. Callely
5. Cllr. O'Donovan

The following members were nominated and agreed for appointment as members of group (b) of the Finance & Property Committee.

1. Dr. O'Connell
2. Cllr. Murray
3. Cllr. O'Brien

Members agreed the details of the first meeting of the Finance & Property Committee as follows:-

Date: Tuesday, 13th June 2000
 Time: 3.00pm
 Location: Great Southern Hotel, Dublin Airport, Swords.

33/2000**NOTICES OF MOTION**

1. The following motion was proposed by Cllr. Burke: -

"This Board agrees to arrange funding for Abbey Day Nursery. Finlater's Presbyterian Church, Parnell Square, Dublin 1 as above group are in urgent need of funding."

The motion was seconded by Mr. McGuire. The Chief Executive outlined the current position in relation to this matter and agreed to furnish details of her response to Cllr. Burke.

2. The motion in the name of Cllr. O'Brien concerning testing of children's urine samples was dropped in view of the proposers' absence.

The meeting concluded at 6.45pm.

CORRECT:

**M. WINDLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

CHAIRMAN