

21st December Special Board Meeting (401 KB)

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NORTHERN AREA HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of proceedings of special Board Meeting of the Northern Area Health Board

**held in the Boardroom, NAHB Headquarters, Swords Business Campus,
Balheary Road, Swords, Co. Dublin.**

On Thursday 21st December 2000 at 5.00p.m.

Present

Cllr. C. Burke
Ald. I. Callely, T.D.
Mr. M. Cowley
Cllr. L. Creaven
Cllr. A. Devitt
Mr. J. Fallon
Ms. N. Harvey
Dr. M. Laffoy
Mr. G. McGuire
Cllr. D. Murray
Dr. B. Murphy
Cllr. E. O'Brien
Dr. P. O'Connell
Cllr. M. O'Donovan
Dr. J. Reilly

In the Chair

Cllr. A. Devitt

Apologies

Ms. M. Hoban

Officers in Attendance

Ms. M. Windle, Chief Executive
Mr. J. Lamont, Assistant Chief Executive
Mr. J. Cahill, Assistant Chief Executive
Mr. P. Dunne, Assistant Chief Executive
Ms. M. Kelly, Director Human Resources
Ms. L. McGuinness, Director of Finance
Ms. N. Byrne, Communications Manager
Ms. O. Treacy, Board Secretary

103/2000

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

The Chairman read the following report.

I think members will agree that Year 2000 posed renewed challenges for us in the health services in terms of the complexity and range of services required by our clients.

The process of continuing to meet these challenges were further complicated in 2000 because of the significant work involved in dissolving the former Eastern Health Board and establishing the Eastern Regional Health Authority and Area Health Boards.

To this end I would firstly like to thank my colleagues on the Board for their guidance and co-operation in fulfilling our roles prior to and since establishment of the Northern Area Health Board earlier this year.

In addition I would like to acknowledge the work of our Management Team and staff and thank them for their enthusiasm and commitment in working with the Board in delivering on our policy objectives by providing an effective health service in the northern region.

The Chief Executive thanked the Chairman for her comments and gave a brief overview of the work completed by our Board since its inception in March 2000. Ms. Windle thanked the members, Management Team and staff for their contribution to the work of our Board.

104/2000

CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

The Chief Executive read the following report. There was discussion on all matters in the report to which Cllr. O'Brien, Cllr. Burke, Mr. McGuire, Cllr. Callely, Cllr. O'Donovan, Dr. O'Connell, Mr. Fallon, Dr. Laffoy, Mr. Cowley and the Chairman contributed and to which the Chief Executive replied. Members complimented Dr. J. Reilly on his radio interview concerning the polio vaccine.

Following a proposal by Mr. McGuire it was agreed to forward a letter of sympathy on behalf of the Board to Mr. Wells family. The report was noted.

SERVICE MATTERS*Incident – James Connolly Memorial Hospital*

I have circulated with agenda papers for this meeting, statements issued in relation to the unfortunate incident at James Connolly Memorial Hospital where Mr. Wells, an 81 year old patient with an acute respiratory condition, went missing on Friday, 15th December, 2000 and subsequently his body was found in a disused duct at the Hospital on Monday, 18th December, 2000. An independent review is currently taking place to examine all of the circumstances surrounding this incident.

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Polio Vaccine

The Northern Area Health Board's initial examination of polio batches indicates that the bulk of these vaccines went to G.P.s for primary vaccinations and only a small percentage have been used for the booster programme by public health doctors. Our information line is in operation since 4 p.m. on the 19th December, 2000. I have attached details in relation to the number of calls and their duration over the last three days

St. Bricin's Hospital

St. Bricin's Hospital, Infirmary Road, Dublin 7 is in the ownership of the Department of Defence and had been in use as the flagship for the Army Medical Corp.

The Department of Health & Children were notified by the Department of Defence recently that the St. Bricin's Complex would be available to provide capacity for health service delivery in the Eastern region in conjunction with the Eastern Regional Health Authority and the Northern Area Health Board. There have been a number of interfaces with St. Bricin's over the last number of months which culminated in an agreed position being arrived at on Monday, 18th December, 2000 between the Department of Health, Departments of Defence, Eastern Regional Health Authority and the Northern Area Health Board for the use of St. Bricin's as an added service resource to be managed by the Northern Area Health Board.

The St. Bricin's facility will allow for some services from the Mater Hospital to be delivered through St. Bricin's and it will also provide access to services from Primary Care (e.g. G.P's)

The agreement will also provide for arrangements which will benefit the Department of Defence, Medical Corp for the provision of on-going training and enhanced expertise for their Military Medical Corp.

The Northern Area Health Board, jointly with the Mater Hospital, will be finalising details of the service requirement to be provided in St. Bricin's over the coming weeks.

A further report will be brought back to the Board.

PRESS RELEASES*Minister for Children, Mary Hanafin, T.D., announces Special Initiative for Homeless Children at Christmas*

Copy of press release dated 21st December, 2000 from the Minister for Children, Mary Hanafin, T.D. in which she announced an initiative by the Health Boards in partnership with voluntary providers to make available additional accommodation and facilities for homeless children in Dublin.

105/2000**LETTER OF DETERMINATION YEAR 2001**

Report No 48/2000 (copy filed with official minute) was circulated. The Chief Executive outlined contents of the report and a discussion followed to which Mr. McGuire, Dr. O'Connell, Dr. Murphy, Ms. Harvey, Mr. Fallon, Mr. Cowley and the Chairman contributed and to which the Chief Executive and Mr. Lamont replied. The report was noted.

The meeting concluded at 6.50p.m.

CORRECT:

**M. WINDLE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

CHAIRMAN