

Minutes of the meeting of the
Health Service Executive Board
of
19th April, 2007

Members present: L. Downey (Chair), N. Brennan, D. de Buitelir, B. Drumm, (CEO), P.J. Fitzpatrick, M. Gaffney, J. Macri (joined by teleconference), E. McCague, J. Murray and A. Scott.

Apologies: M. McLoone and M. Murphy.

Attendees: T. Martin, L. McGuinness and D. Purcell (Board Secretary).

Joined the meeting: L. Woods, A. Doherty, G. Barry, Dr. P. Doorley, M. Lynott, B. Gilroy, L. Clancy and B. Hyland.

Time & Location: HSE – EA Offices, Adelaide Road, Dublin at 8 a.m.

The items are presented in the order in which they were discussed at the meeting.

Item	Discussion / Comments	Action
1	Minutes of previous meeting	
	The minutes of the meeting held on 29 th March, 2007 were agreed.	
2	Matters arising from minutes	
	<p>Corporate Plan It was requested that an update would be provided to the Board at the June meeting in relation to the review of the Corporate Plan.</p> <p>Co-location of private hospitals on public sites The Chairman circulated a letter from M. Scanlan, Secretary General, Department of Health and Children which was in response to issues raised by the Board Members at the meeting of the Board on 16th April, 2007 in relation to the co-location of private hospitals on public sites. It was noted that Management would now issue the invitation to tender and project agreement documentation.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CEO</p> <p style="text-align: center;">J. O Brien/B. Gilroy</p>
3	CEOs Report	
	<p>The CEO spoke to the report which had been circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>The following items were discussed in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The nurses' dispute. <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The CEO advised that this dispute was causing significant disruption to patient care and there may be an escalation of the dispute in the coming week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursing Home Inspections. <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The CEO informed the meeting that significant progress has been made with the implementation of a national standardised approach to the nursing home inspection process and that the HSE is moving to dedicated Nursing Home Inspection Teams across the four HSE administrative areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute Service Strategic Planning. 	

	<p>The CEO updated the meeting on the progress being made with the various Acute hospital services reviews. These reviews include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Acute Hospital In-Patient Bed Utilisation Review Project</u> 2. <u>Review of Acute Bed Capacity requirements for Ireland to 2020</u> 3. <u>Review of Acute Hospital Services in HSE South and Mid West</u> 4. <u>North East Regional Hospital Location</u> <p>It was noted that a joint HSE/Department of Health Group has been established to ensure that plans emerging from each review are integrated with each other and are consistent with overall policy development and implementation.</p> <p>The Board welcomed these reviews as a critical piece of work.</p>	
4	Finance Report	
	<p>L. Woods joined the meeting for this item and presented the Finance Report for February 2007. This report had been previously circulated as part of the Service Plan Monitoring Report.</p> <p>L. Woods circulated a summary briefing note at the meeting highlighting the financial results for February show total expenditure of €2.0 billion against a year to date budget of €1.9 billion – a deficit of €92million at end February 2007.</p> <p>He advised the Board that a breakeven position at the end of the year was still anticipated, but the hospital budget overruns are a matter of concern. It was noted that control measures to address the overruns are being taken and the matter will be reviewed at the end of the first quarter.</p>	
5	Service Plan Monitoring Report February 2007	
	<p>A. Doherty joined the meeting for this item and highlighted the key performance summary for PCCC, NHO and Human Resources.</p> <p>The report was noted.</p>	
6.	Consultant Contract Negotiations/Update	
	<p>G. Barry joined the meeting for this item and provided an update on the consultant contract negotiations.</p> <p>He advised that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the IHCA had now suspended their involvement with the talk's process. • the IMO had written to the independent chairman seeking a guarantee that the initiative to recruit additional consultants would only be progressed on the basis of an agreed contract. • the key issues remaining included; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working hours - Private practice Working arrangements for contract type 'B' holders, - The "pricing" of any new contract - Future Category 2 appointments (maximum part-time) <p>He advised the Board that the contract tabled at talks on 5 April 2007 (with a revised Advocacy clause) was now available on the PAS website.</p>	

	<p>The CEO circulated, for the information of members, a letter he intended to send to all consultants advising them of the position on consultant contract talks and encouraging them to continue with the negotiations.</p> <p>T Martin informed the meeting that the HSE had regulated and advertised for 68 Medical Consultant posts. It was noted that consultants appointed from this competition would be recruited on the terms of the contract tabled on 5 April 2007 and that both Type A and Type B Contracts were on offer.</p>	
9	Swords Nursing Home Service Level Agreement	
	<p>B. Gilroy joined the meeting for this item.</p> <p>L. McGuinness informed the meeting that negotiations have been concluded with Mowlam Healthcare in respect of a draft Service Level Agreement for the provision of 60 nursing home beds over a three year period.</p> <p>The proposal was recommended by management on an exceptional basis given the major shortage of long term care beds in North Dublin and the impact on the acute sector.</p> <p>The Service Level Agreement was agreed on the proposal of M. Gaffney and seconded by PJ Fitzpatrick. (Decision number; HSE/Board/19.04/ (04)/2007).</p>	
8	Property Transactions	
	<p>Three property transactions were presented by B. Gilroy to the Board for approval. Details of the transactions had been circulated previously.</p> <p>It was noted that the property transactions in relation to :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. site at Clonbrusk for a Resource Centre and a Community Crèche in Athlone, Co. Westmeath, and 2. a site for a Community Hospital, Dingle, Co. Kerry. <p>were being acquired at under market value (nominal value)</p> <p>Approval for the acquisition of the site at Clonbrusk, Athlone was proposed by PJ Fitzpatrick and seconded by A Scott and agreed by the Board. (Decision number; HSE/Board/19.04/ (05)/2007).</p> <p>Approval for the acquisition of the site for a Community Hospital Dingle was proposed by E. McCague and seconded by N. Brennan and agreed by the Board. (Decision number; HSE/Board/19.04/ (06)/2007).</p> <p>The third property transaction relates to a lease interest in a five storey purpose built office block at 20/23 Merchants Quay, Dublin 8.</p> <p>B. Gilroy advised that a full needs assessment and options appraisal had been carried out on the proposal by the Estates Directorate.</p> <p>This property transaction was recommended to the Board as a targeted proposal by management to consolidate office accommodation in one location and dispose of three existing office premises.</p> <p>Approval for the acquisition of the property was proposed by E. McCague and seconded by D. de Buitléir. The proposal was agreed by a majority decision. Two members dissented (Decision number; HSE/Board/19.04/ (07)/2007).</p> <p>The Board requested that a progress report would be provided at the July meeting on the disposal of the three existing office buildings – (Corrigan House, 6-9 Old Kilmainham and Stewarts Hospital).</p> <p>It was also noted that a Space Management Consultancy Study is now</p>	<p>Estates Directorate</p>

	underway which will map the overall space requirement for staff in the HSE. The Board requested that the results of this study should be brought to the Board when completed.	Estates Directorate
7	Annual Report	
	<p>L. Clancy joined the meeting for this item and circulated the latest draft of the Annual Report, 2006.</p> <p>T. Martin outlined the process followed to date in preparing the draft Annual Report. L Clancy highlighted the key changes made to the draft as circulated at the meeting. This draft included the feedback received from Board Members and management team.</p> <p>Following discussion a number of comments were made by Board Members which will be incorporated into the final version of the Annual Report.</p> <p>Subject to the Board/Management Steering Committee approving any drafting changes required before the report is presented to the Minister in accordance with the Health Act 2004 it was decided to adopt the Annual Report 2006, as proposed by M. Gaffney and seconded by D. de Buitleur (Decision number; HSE/Board/19.04/ (08)/2007).</p>	Board//Management Committee
10	Corporate Performance Measurements	
	<p>M. Lynott and B. Hyland joined the meeting for this item and made a presentation to the Board.</p> <p>A number of suggestions were made by Board members on the data descriptions and terminology which would be included in the final set of corporate performance measures.</p> <p>The Board welcomed the presentation.</p>	M Lynott/B Hyland
11	Healthcare Acquired Infections	
	<p>P. Doorley joined the meeting for this item and circulated the Infection Control Action Plan.</p> <p>He outlined the progress to date in addressing the problems in relation to Health Care Associated Infections (HCAI) and Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA).</p> <p>It was noted that the HSE has set a target over the next three to five years to -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce Health Care Associated Infections by 20% • Reduce MRSA infections by 30% • Reduce antibiotic consumption by 20% <p>A National Infection Control Steering Group has been established to take responsible for reducing infection level in Ireland by: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the spread of infection • And reducing and altering antibiotics usage <p>Following questions and answers the board welcomed the progress report.</p>	
12	Reports from Committees of the Board	
	<p>Risk Committee</p> <p>Minutes were circulated of the Risk Committee meeting on 1st March 2007.</p>	

	<p>In the absence of the Chair of the Risk Committee Prof A Scott, L Downey outlined the main items discussed at the Risk Committee meeting on 18th April 2007. These were that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good progress is being made to re-assign persons to senior management posts in the Quality and Risk function. • A Risk Management Framework Workshop is scheduled for 23rd April 2007. Persons with responsibility for Risk Management in the HSE across all areas will be attending. • The drafting of the Quality and Risk Strategy is ongoing and will be brought to the Board when finalised. <p>Remuneration Committee.</p> <p>L Downey outlined the main items discussed at the Committee meeting on 2nd March 2007. These were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advices from Mercer Consulting on HR matters, and • The report from Hay Consulting on the Performance Related Pay Awards Scheme for 2005 and 2006. 	
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The meeting concluded at 1. 40 p.m.

Signed:

Date:

Liam Downey
Chairman
