

WESTERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES COUNCIL

Minutes of One Hundred and Twenty-ninth meeting of the
Western Health and Social Services Council
held in the Omagh Library Headquarters
Spillar's Place, Omagh, Co Tyrone
on Thursday 27 May 2004
at 6.30PM

Present:	Mr P McGowan, Chairman Mrs V Brown Miss M Burke Mr E Friel Mr P Gilgunn	Mr J Kerr Mr I Maguire Mr V McKelvey Mrs H Quigley Mrs F Robson
Apologies:	Mr H Andrews Mr J Campbell Mr M Carten Mrs M Devlin Mrs M Hamilton	Mr B McAleer Mr W Page Mr R Rogan Mr D Sutherland Ms M Trimble
In Attendance:	Ms M Reilly Mrs L Preston	Mrs K Loughran

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C34/04 Chairman's Business:

Mr Paddy McGowan Vice-Chairman chaired the meeting in the absence of Mr Raymond Rogan. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mr McGowan asked the Chief Officer to read a letter from Mr Rogan informing the Council of his resignation as Chairman and member of the Council.

In the letter Mr Rogan said he had been involved in Public Service for almost thirty years and had mixed feelings but believed he had made the right decision.

He said he thought a lot of work needed to be done collectively by the four Councils province wide to develop the influence of the Councils.

Mr Rogan said it was fortunate that in the West Mr Steven Lindsay was the Chief Executive of the Western Health and Social Services Board as he was very receptive to new thinking and was progressive in his approach to change. He said that the Council needed to be in a position to influence the change that is coming and he believed that what was needed was a strategy and the collective voice of the Councils sounding loud and clear at every opportunity and at every level within and outside the system. He regretted that he was unable to make the commitment he felt all members will have to make in order to create the opportunity to influence change and he felt his place on the Council would be better utilised by someone who has that time.

He sent his regards to Mrs Preston, Mrs Loughran and all the members and he commended Ms Reilly for her work with the Council in such a short time and thanked her for her understanding and support.

Mrs Helen Quigley proposed that the Council write to Mr Rogan expressing their gratitude to him for the work he had done for the Council not only as Chair but also as a member. She said he was very proactive, a great contributor and participated at every level and she said he would be a great loss to the Council. Members wished to be associated with the remarks.

Action AP: a/05/04

Chief Officer to write to Mr Rogan.

Mr McGowan welcomed and introduced Dr Bill McConnell Director of Public Health at the Western Health and Social Services Board.

C35/04 **Presentation:**

New Consultant Contract:

Dr McConnell said that before he began his Presentation he wished to be associated with the remarks made by members and on behalf of the Western Health and Social Services Board said that Mr Rogan's contribution had been very significant. He said he had helped them through a number of processes and was very committed. He said he wished to make the point that the role of the Health Council to thoroughly engage with the public was crucial.

Dr McConnell began his Presentation by giving reasons why The New Consultant Contract is needed:

- Current contract not satisfactory for either Employees or Consultants

- European Working Time Directive
- New Job Planning, Appraisal and Revalidation requirements
- Greater emphasis on Team Working
- Many recent additional demands:-
 - ~ Audit time
 - ~ Lead roles
 - ~ Waiting times/lists work

What It Means:

- Basic salary for 10 programmed activities (PAs) (each 4 hours) per week
- Additional PAs by agreement of both consultant and employer
- On call availability supplement – 1% to 8% depending on frequency of contact plus complexity and nature of response
- Backdating to 1/4/2003 or 1/10/2003 plus change of seniority date
- Usually 7.5 PAs direct clinical care and 2.5 PAs for Supporting Professional activities/ Additional HPSS responsibilities

Some Key Changes:

- Working day – “normal”/non premium time is from 7am to 7pm
- Rotas of 1 in 4 or heavier will be reviewed each year to try to reduce
- Any regular private commitment or fee paying work to be declared showing place, time and broad type of work involved

Other Key Issues:

- Average consultant currently work approximately 48 hours plus on call
- DHSSPS want 10 PAs or less for each consultant but how will the work be done?
- More consultants plus changes in the way things are done and who they are done by
- There are many vacant posts at present so change may take time to phase in
- Recent change in that many consultants are now indicating that they may only wish to work 10 PAs in the near future

Members raised a number of issues with Dr McConnell which included funding, training and research, recruitment, working hours, travel, standards, clinical governance and quality of service and the charter for patients.

Dr McConnell ensured the Chief Officer that it stated clearly and very specifically on the issue of Consultants who do private work that their first obligation is to the Health Service. He said this will be monitored by Clinical Directors in small firms and Medical Directors and Chief Executives in larger hospitals.

Mr McGowan thanked Dr McConnell for his presentation.

Update on Developing Better Services:

The Chairman introduced Mrs Margaret Kelly Chief Nurse and Mr Michael Gormley Head of Business Services at the Western Health and Social Services Board.

Mrs Kelly gave a brief outline of the work that the Board were doing in terms of implementing Better Services in the Western area. She said Developing Better Services is a regional strategy for improving acute services across Northern Ireland.

Key Elements of Developing Better Services:

- Modern networked services, more responsive to needs and more flexible methods of delivery
- New ways of working (staff and technology)
- Network of acute hospitals supported by local hospitals
- New hospital in the South West (north of Enniskillen) including an elective treatment centre
- Local hospital in Omagh – emergency diagnostic and treatment centre, outpatients, day surgery, renal dialysis:
 - ~ Inpatient care for rehabilitation and palliative care
 - ~ Resource centre
- People will have local access to a wider range of services than before

Western Board Area – Implications:

- Focus on services not buildings
- Radical service and workforce redesign
- Development of primary and community care
- Networking of services
- Sustaining services during change

Process to Date:

- Organisational structure in place

- Strategic Context approved by Board and DHSSPS
- Draft summary for Public and Staff
- Service Outline and Implementation Plan being developed
- Informing Commissioning and Resource Allocation

Vision for the Future:

The vision is to meet the health and social care needs of all the people of the Western Board area through modern, integrated, patient-focused, responsive services which match the best standards in Europe.

Work in partnership with service users and communities and will value and further develop the skills of our staff.

Continuously seek to improve the health and well-being of the people of the area and to ensure that they have timely access to high quality care in the most appropriate settings.

Public and Staff Involvement:

The aim is to address concerns and develop a profile of future services which can command the confidence of service users and staff.

Committed to this engagement for both the short term (planning) and the longer term (implementation).

Key Messages:

- The provision of information
- The need for a single voice
- Public engagement
- Service provision
- Patient journeys
- Rurality
- The organisation of services
- Staff issues
- Involvement of elected representatives
- Funding
- Issues raised in Omagh

Public Engagement:

- Establishment of Public Engagement Reference Group
- Initial public engagement (Oct/Nov 2003)
- Information Leaflet to households
- Press releases
- Next round of public engagement in June (Emergency Services and Out-of-Hours Services).

Concerns raised by members included the numbers attending the public consultations, the Omagh issue, WHSS Council input to future services, emergency services and radiotherapy.

Mr Gormley assured members that the issues that had been raised in the public consultations are being reflected in the work that the Board are currently doing. He said that they were planning to go out during June through the community networks, through the media, working with local Councils, the Health Council and others on the issue of emergency services linked with out-of-hours services.

Mr McGowan thanked Mrs Kelly and Mr Gormley.

C36/04 **Election of Officers for the period 1 June 2004-31 May 2005:**

Mr McGowan invited Mr Michael Gormley, Head of Consumer Services at Western Health and Social Services Board to preside over the Election of Officers.

Having declared the Office of Chairperson and Vice-chairperson vacant he invited nominations:

Chairperson Nominations:

Mrs Helen Quigley proposed Mr Paddy McGowan and this was seconded by Mrs Frances Robson. With no further nominations Mr McGowan was declared elected as Chairman.

Vice -chairperson Nominations:

Mrs Helen Quigley proposed Mrs Frances Robson and this was seconded by Mr John Kerr. With no further nominations Mrs Frances was declared elected as Vice-chairperson.

Mr McGowan thanked the members for nominating him as Chairman.

C37/04 **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 22 April 2004 were adopted on the proposal of Mrs Helen Quigley and seconded by Mrs Frances Robson.

C38/04 **Matters Arising from Minutes:**

Response to Action Points AP: a/03/04 – d/03/04:

Action AP: a/03/04: Proposal to set up a sub group to look at the different relationships and what the implications are for general dental practitioners moving into private work.

Ms Reilly said that there were seven sub groups starting work in the summer and the Council did not have the capacity to set up another one. She said the Council would continue to have a watching brief. It was agreed that a schedule of meetings for the next year should be requested from Ms Judi McGaffin, Director of Dental Health at the Western Health and Social Services Board.

Action AP: b/05/04

Request schedule of meetings from Director of Dental Health at WHSSB.

Action AP: b/03/04: Standards of care and attitude of Medical Locums.

Dr McConnell assured Mr Gilgunn that there would be no comprising of standards. Mr Gilgunn will discuss further with the Chief Officer.

Action AP: c/03/04: The new GP out of hours service.

The Chief Officer said that this was an ongoing piece of work and a sub group would meet with Mr Eugene Gallagher Head of Primary Care and Family Practitioner Support Services at the Western Health and Social Services Board. She said the Consultation document on the implementation of the Out-of-Hours Service in the Western Board area was almost ready to go out to the public.

Mrs Valerie Brown said she had attended training with the Royal College of General Practitioners for Quality Initiative Assessors and said that if they feel that the hours are not appropriate to the area they can suggest change.

Members voiced a concern that there was only one opportunity for training in Northern Ireland for Quality Initiative Assessors and they would have to go to England to avail of further dates for training. The Chief Officer said she would contact the Royal College of General Practitioners about the dates for training.

Action AP: c/05/04

Chief Office will contact Royal College of General Practitioners.

Action AP: d/03/04: Waiting times for cataract operations/funding for medical staff officers/recruitment of anaesthetists.

The Chief Officer said these were issues which continue to concern members and should be put on the agenda for the individual Trust Liaison meetings which will be held shortly.

The Speech and Language information requested from the various Trusts will also be included on the agenda for the Liaison meetings.

Action AP: d/05/04

Include on Agenda for June meeting.

C39/04 **Update on June Conference:**

Members were given a draft programme for the Conference.

C40/04 **Trusts' Business:**

1. ***Altnagelvin Hospitals Health and Social Service Trust:***

- Minutes of the Trust Board meeting held on 6 May 2004 and Agenda for a meeting to be held on 3 June 2004 were noted.
- Notice of the appointment of Mr Gerry McGuckian as Chairman of the Trust was acknowledged.

2. ***Foyle Health and Social Services Trust:***

- Minutes of a Trust Board meeting held on 30 April 2004 and an Agenda for a meeting to be held on 28 May 2004 were noted.

3. ***Sperrin Lakeland Health and Social Care Trust:***

- A copy of the Trust's Core Brief for May 2004 was acknowledged.

4. ***Green Park Healthcare Trust:***

- Minutes of a Trust Board meeting held on 6 May 2004, and an Agenda for a meeting to be held on 3 June 2004 were noted.

5. *The Royal Hospitals Trust:*

- Minutes of Trust Board Meeting held on 4 March 2004 and an Agenda for a meeting to be held on 3 June 2004 were noted.

C41/04 **Any Other Business:**

The Chief Officer informed members that she had recently found out that from 1 April 2004 that Doctors can no longer refuse to take new patients on unless their list is closed and currently there are no lists closed in the Western Board area.

The sub group set up for Mental Health will meet during the summer to work on the Sperrin Lakeland Trust Review of Mental Health Services.

The Ambulance Liaison Group Press Release will be ready next week. A copy of the report will be sent out next week.

The Chief Officer informed members that the Chief Executive of the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service is retiring at the end of May.

Mr Victor McKelvey thanked everyone for their good wishes during his recent illness.

Meetings and Events attended by Members

Date:	26 April 2004
Meeting:	Sperrin Lakeland Hotel Services Steering Group
Venue:	Cedar Villa, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital
Nominated:	Mr Sutherland
Date:	27 April 2004
Ceremony:	Smart Snacks Award Ceremony
Venue:	Omagh Leisure Centre
Nominated:	Mr R McKelvey
Date:	27 April 2004
Meeting:	Mr Simon Bridge
Venue:	WHSS Board Headquarters, Gransha Park, Londonderry
Nominated:	Mr Rogan
Date:	29 April 2004
Training:	Quality Initiative Assessor Training Day
Venue:	Grosvenor House, Belfast
Nominated:	Mrs Brown

Date: 4 May 2004
Reception: World Asthma Day
Venue: Stormont Hotel, Belfast
Nominated: Mr McIvor

Date: 6 May 2004
Meeting: Northern Ireland Cancer Registry
Venue: Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast
Nominated: Mrs Devlin

Date: 6 May 2004
Meeting: Regional Advisory Committee on Cancer
Venue: Castle Buildings, Stormont
Nominated: Ms Robson

Date: 6 May 2004
Workshop: Mental Health Review
Venue: Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown
Nominated: Mr Campbell Mr McGowan

Date: 6 May 2004
Meeting: Ms M Reilly, Chief Officer
Venue: Altnagelvin Area Hospital, Londonderry
Nominated: Mr Rogan

Date: 13 May 2004
Meeting: With Mr C Gowdy
Venue: Castle Buildings, Stormont
Nominated: Mr Rogan

Date: 18 May 2004
Meeting: Altnagelvin Cancer Unit Development Group
Venue: MDEC, Altnagelvin Area Hospital, Londonderry
Nominated: Mrs Devlin

Date: 20 May 2004
Training: Quality Initiative Assessor Training Day
Venue: Europa Hotel, Belfast
Nominated: Mrs Brown

Date: 20 May 2004
Meeting: Sperrin Lakeland PIP Group (Physical Disability)
Venue: Lackaboy Centre, Enniskillen
Nominated: Mr Gilgunn

Date: 20 May 2004
Meeting: Sperrin/Lakeland Clinical and Social Care Governance
Venue: Coleshill, Enniskillen
Nominated: Mr Campbell

Date: 20/21 May 2004
Conference: Development of Best Practice in the Investigation of Sexual Offences
Venue: Clandeboye Lodge Hotel, Bangor
Nominated: Mr McGowan

Meetings and Events attended by Chief Officer/Staff

Date: 23 April 2004
Meeting: HSS Councils' Chief Officers
Venue: EHSS Council Offices, Belfast

Date: 26/27 April 2004
Workshop: Freedom of Information Practitioners Workshop
Venue: Manor House Hotel, Killeadeas

Date: 28 April 2004
Meeting: Primary Care Strategy Board
Venue: Castle Buildings, Stormont

Date: 30 April 2004
Training: CAMS (Complaints Database)
Venue: EHSS Council Offices, Belfast
Nominated: Ms Reilly MrsPreston Mrs Loughran

Date: 6 May 2004
Meeting: Mr R Rogan, Chairman
Venue: Altnagelvin Hospital

Date: 6 May 2004
Meeting: Altnagelvin Trust Board
Venue: Altnagelvin Area Hospital, Londonderry

Date: 13 May 2004
Meeting: Mr C Gowdy
Venue: Castle Buildings, Stormont

Date: 14 May 2004
Meeting: Clinical and Social Care Governance
Venue: Castle Buildings, Stormont

Date: 18 May 2004
Meeting: CSF 3
Venue: WHSS Board Headquarters, Gransha Park, Londonderry

Date: 21 May 2004
Meeting: HSS Councils' Chief Officers (Simon Bridge)
Venue: Enterprise Centre, Cookstown

Date: 24 May 2004
Meeting: Western Complaints Forum
Venue: WHSS Board Headquarters, Gransha Park, Londonderry

Date: 25 May 2004
Meeting: Regional Prosthetic Services
Venue: Musgrave Park Hospital, Belfast

Date: 25 May 2004
Meeting: Ms Myra Weir (Beeches Management)
Venue: Musgrave Park Hospital, Belfast

Date: 25 May 2004
Meeting: Closure of Branch Surgeries
Venue: Parish Hall, Kinawley

Date: 26 May 2004
Meeting: Mr E Gallagher (WHSSB)
Venue: Fir Trees Hotel, Strabane

C42/04 **Next Meeting:**

Date: 18 June 2004
Time: 2.30pm
Venue: Lusty Beg Island
Boa Island
Kesh, Co Fermanagh

The meeting ended at 9.10pm