



**112/2      MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the previous meeting which were circulated were agreed and signed

**112/3      MATTERS ARISING**

1      111/3.3      Relocation of Portadown Health Centre

The Chairman informed members that a copy of the research project undertaken by the Council on behalf of Clanrye Surgery, Newry had been sent to the Craigavon and Banbridge Community Trust for information. She read a letter of thanks from the Trust.

2      111/3.1      Green Park Healthcare Trust

In response to Mrs Ferris query about the papers for the Trust Board meeting, the Chief Officer said the Council had written to the Chief Executive of the Trust requesting that papers for the meetings be made available to the Council but to date no response had been received. It was agreed to follow up on the matter.

3      111/3.2      Ceara School

Mr Simpson reported on progress with an initiative in relation to education for over 19s at Ceara School that he, Mrs Ferris and Mrs Harris were involved as private individuals rather than as H&SS Council members. They have reached agreement with NIHE for the use of premises in Lime Grove, Lurgan to enable services to be provided for 6 young adults thus alleviating the problems at Ceara School. The facility would be staffed by Ceara School during school hours 5 days per week. However, more work had to be done in relation to financing the project.

4      111/4.4      The Council's Media Strategy

The Chief Officer informed members that a meeting would be arranged as soon as possible between Mr Coulter and members of the sub group to take forward the implementation of the strategy.

5 112/4.6 Misuse of Disabled Parking Spaces at CAHGT

The Chairman advised members that a working group made up of representatives from the Hospital Estates and Quality Directorates, MS Society and the Council had met on two occasions to discuss the misuse of disabled car parking spaces at Craigavon Area Hospital. The group had decided to carry out a survey on the parking spaces on Tuesday 26 November 2002 for one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon. The results of which would be analysed and form the basis of a publicity campaign to raise awareness among the general public. An information day was also planned at the Hospital around Easter. It was agreed to keep members updated.

**112/4 CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

1 Appointment of SHSSB Chief Executive

The Chairman informed members of the appointment of Mr Colm Donaghy as Chief Executive of the Southern Health and Social Services Board. It was agreed to send a letter congratulating Mr Donaghy on his appointment.

2 January 2003 Meeting

The Chairman advised members that Dr Marshall Garvin, Secretary, Local Medical Committee had agreed to attend the January 2003 Council meeting to talk about the issues relating to GP participation in LHSCGs.

3 Report back by Research Officer

Ms McCoy reported on the Southern Area Ambulance Liaison Group meeting which she attended recently. She updated members on the Medical Priority Despatch System pilot within the Eastern Board area and informed them of plans for the rapid responders which would be conducted over a period of 12 - 18 months to assess where the vehicles had most impact.

Ms McCoy also reported on the Board's review of Locality Sensitive Purchasing Community Fora. She said the Council

had been approached by the Board to assist with the review which would examine the current status of the five Fora and conduct an analysis of whether the Fora, as a Board-wide initiative could support community/user involvement in the work of the LHSCGs.

In relation to minutes of the LHSCGs, it was agreed that a file containing minutes would be made available at each meeting for anyone interested in reading them.

#### 4 Chief Officer's Report

The Chief Officer reported on the monthly update on care management pressures, which was discussed at the Southern Board's meeting on 12 November 2002. The report for September indicated continuing problems with waiting lists for community care packages, particularly in the Armagh and Dungannon Trust area. However a preliminary report for October has also been presented which showed indication of improvement. Concern was expressed about the overall management of community care waiting lists. Trusts were required to report on waiting lists for care packages within the care management system. This method did not record those cases where care needs were only partially met or those waiting for care packages but not within the care management process. The Chairman said the Board was conducting a review of community care and she would be involved in the exercise. Mrs Gray, a member of the public, was given the opportunity comment on the issue. She provided examples from her experience of people with disabilities whose needs for care were not being adequately met. She believed that the issue of the shortfall in community care needed to be addressed.

#### 5 Visits

Members were reminded of visiting arrangements to Children's facilities; Drumglass Lodge and Woodside Adolescent Centre on 27 November at 10.30 am and 11.30 am respectively; and Cedar Grove, Newry on 3 December 2002 at 10.30 am.

6 Christmas Lunch

The Chairman informed members that the Christmas Lunch had been arranged for 12 December 2002 in the Seagoe Hotel, Portadown at 1.00 pm. This would follow the Council's monthly meeting in Quaker Buildings. Members were asked to confirm their attendance as soon as possible.

7 Blind Centre for NI - AGM

No member was available to attend the AGM of the Blind Centre for NI to be held in the Ulster Museum, Belfast.

8 Clinical and Social Care Governance

The Chairman referred to correspondence from the Department on the development of Clinical and Social Care Governance including the establishment of a Clinical and Social Care Governance Support Team in NI. She said a series of workshops were being arranged for January and February 2003 across NI and the one in the Southern area would be held in the Seagoe Hotel, Portadown on Wednesday 12 February. The Council wished to have two members involved as well as a member of staff. Mrs Cairns and Mrs Ferris agreed to participate but would like more details regarding the time of the event.

**112/5 DHSSPS - WAITING LIST AND WAITING TIMES ACTION PLANS FOR 2002/03 AND BEYOND SHSSC 02/34**

The Chief Officer referred members to the DHSSPS circular which outlined its plans to tackle the problem of waiting lists. She said Northern Ireland had more people on waiting lists than other areas of the UK and in spite of a number of initiatives to tackle the problem waiting lists had actually increased over the past year.

The Department publishes a document each year entitled, 'Priorities for Action' which sets out targets for the Board and requires proof of its achievement. In future this will include targets in relation to waiting lists. However, responsibility for the reduction in waiting lists will be devolved to Trusts and specific

objective set for reducing lists. Senior managers' performance will be linked to the achievement of these targets. Trusts will be required to draw up a plan detailing new initiatives planned to manage waiting lists and progress on monthly targets for waiting lists in line with the Priorities for Action plan.

Mrs van der Lenden said one concern was that the focus on the more political issue of hospital waiting lists could divert attention from the problems of people waiting in the community for packages of care. It was agreed to monitor how the directive would impact on waiting lists and whether or not other aspects of care would suffer. She advised members that meetings had been sought with the Chief Executives of Craigavon Area Hospital Group Trust and Newry and Mourne HSS Trust to discuss waiting lists. Members would receive an update on the outcome of the meetings.

Mr Henning joined the meeting at 11.00 am

#### **112/6 CAHGT - PAMS / MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Brian Beattie, Head of Physiotherapy Services and Ms May Thompson, Nutrition and Dietetics, Craigavon Area Hospital Group Trust.

Mr Beattie thanked the Council for the opportunity to speak to the Council and give members an insight into the work of PAMs and how they could make a difference to people's lives.

He said the PAMs title had changed from 1 April and they were now known as 'Allied Health Professionals' representing nutrition and dietetics; occupational therapy; orthoptics; physiotherapy; podiatry; and speech and language therapy. Allied Health Professionals could make a difference to people's lives through promoting health and social well-being, reducing waiting lists, promoting independence, improving quality of life, targeting social need, facilitating earlier discharge from hospital, maintaining people in the community and reducing costs of care packages.

He outlined the work of the professions within the Craigavon Area Hospital Group Trust. As well as treating inpatients in the

acute hospital, patients in outpatient clinics were also treated. Inpatient/outpatient and day hospital patients were treated at Lurgan Hospital and outpatients at Banbridge Polyclinic. In the acute Trust approximately 21,803 patients were treated in 2001.

In relation to community services, Mr Beattie, said the Craigavon and Banbridge Community Trust purchased services for paediatric and adult clinics and intermediate care / rehabilitation. The professions also covered area services such as orthoptics and child development clinics.

Mr Beattie explained how treatment of Diabetes and in particular the management of foot ulceration by podiatrists could reduce the amputation rates by 50% and reduce the annual cost of community care by up to £60,000.

Important areas for rehabilitative work included: working with older people on falls prevention and osteoporosis; management of swallowing and nutrition; A & E intervention and rehabilitation. The focus of AHPs is on promoting independence and improving the quality of life; promoting health and social wellbeing; maintaining people in the community, and thus reducing the cost of care packages and reducing waiting lists.

Allied Health Professionals are seeking to strengthen and improve arrangements for representation at all levels, now and in the long term in strategic planning, policy formulation and service commissioning. Locally the challenges were for local representation, LHSCGs, Clinical Governance, maintaining service delivery and securing service developments.

Examples were given of areas where AHPs could be effective in reducing waiting lists. There was evidence that timely and appropriate intervention by podiatrists could reduce referrals to orthopaedic or a rheumatology consultant by up to 75%. In relation to podiatric surgery, patients could be treated as a day case in a community hospital rather than an acute hospital, which proved to be more cost effective than orthopaedic surgery.

In concluding he said the Professions were committed to playing their part in improving the health and wellbeing of the population of Northern Ireland.

Mr Beattie and Ms Thompson responded to members' questions in relation to speech therapy and people with special needs, resources, orthopaedic referrals, staffing problems, waiting lists.

The Chairman thanked both speakers and they left the meeting.

**112/7                    DEVELOPING BETTER SERVICES - Modernising  
Hospitals and Reforming Structures                    SHSSC 02/35**

The Chief Officer reported that following approval of the Council's response to Developing Better Services - Modernising Hospitals and Reforming Structures, at the October meeting, it was finalised and submitted to the DHSSPS prior to the closing date of 31 October.

The Chairman thanked those members who attended the special meetings to put forward their views on the document. She congratulated the Chief Officer and staff on compiling the response.

**112/8                    A STRATEGY FOR THE PROVISION OF HEALTH AND  
SOCIAL SERVICES TO PEOPLE WITH A VISUAL  
IMPAIRMENT                    SHSSC 02/36**

The Chief Officer drew members' attention to the Southern Board's draft document, 'A Strategy for the provision of Health and Social Services to people with a visual impairment' which was being issued for consultation.

As part of the process in developing the strategy a series of workshops were held which highlighted six key theme areas including children's services; education and employment; environmental; information; services to older people; and provider issues and included actions required, priorities and timescales. The report detailed a number of recommendations in respect of the key areas and to take these forward the Board intended establishing a Multi-Agency Forum. The document has



Speaking on the Council's financial report she said the Council, for a number of years has been faced with a shortfall at the end of each financial year, and had to rely on additional financial support from the Board. This situation had been brought to the attention of the Department by her predecessor, and she has again written to the Department about the inadequacy of the Council's resources and is awaiting a response. Members would be kept updated on the matter.

The report was approved and would be widely circulated to all interested parties.

**112/12**

**TRUSTS' BUSINESS**

**SHSSC 02/39**

1 Craigavon Area Hospital Group Trust

Minutes of Trust Board meeting on 15 October and agenda for 19 November 2002 (tabled)

2 Craigavon and Banbridge comm HSS Trust

Minutes of Trust board meeting held on 30 September and agenda for meeting on 28 October 2002

Report back from Members

Mrs Ferris reported back from the Newry and Mourne Trust Board meeting. Topics on the agenda had included a report on a project on post-natal depression; the issues extra beds for DHH; the problems of replacement of copper piping at the hospital; planned developments at Killeel Health Centre and appointment of non-Executive members.

Mrs Harris reported that she had attended the Craigavon Area Hospital Trust Board meeting and said that one of the proposals was to extend the opening hours at South Tyrone Minor Injuries Unit.

**112/13 FOR INFORMATION**

- 1 SHSSB - Minutes of Board Meeting held on 8 October 2002
- 2 SHSSB - Minutes of Special Board meeting held on 22 October 2002
- 3 Craigavon Area Hospital Group Trust - Annual Report 2001/02 (tabled)

Minutes of other HSS Councils' meetings are available on request

**112/14 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**1 R & I Conference - Listening to Residents**

Mr Murray said he had attended the R & I Advisory Committee's conference - 'Listening to Residents' and from the point of view of listening to people who used the service it was very useful. However, he had some concerns regarding the presentation by the representative of the OFMDFM in relation to complaints.

Mrs Gray, public representative and lay assessor with the R & I Unit said she would follow up in relation to complaints and this would be reflected in the annual report.

**2 Speakers**

The Chief Officer said a number of speakers had been invited along to Council meetings throughout the year as part of an induction plan for new members although some may have a significant degree of prior knowledge of the health service. This would continue as part of an ongoing process with a number of other speakers lined up. Members requested that speakers be restricted to a clear, concise 10-minute presentation and 10 minutes question time.

**Mr Simpson left the meeting at 12.30 pm**

**112/15      DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Thursday 12 December** at 10.00 am in Quaker Buildings  
followed by Christmas lunch at the Seagoe Hotel, Portadown

**Signed:** .....      **Date:** .....  
                 **Chairman**