



## ASSOCIATION OF HOSPITAL CHIEF EXECUTIVES

# AHCE EXECUTIVE MEETING 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2011

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**PRESENT:** Derek Greene, AHCE Chair / National Rehabilitation Hospital  
Ethel McKenna, AHCE Honorary Secretary / St. Francis Hospice  
Danny Dunne, Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital  
Pat O'Boyle, Dublin Dental University Hospital  
Graham Knowles, Royal Hospital Donnybrook  
Robin Mullan, Peamount Healthcare  
Lorcan Birthistle, Our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin

**APOLOGIES:** Gerard O'Callaghan, Hon. Treasurer / South Infirmary Victoria Hospital  
Liam Duffy, Beaumont Hospital  
Pauline Treanor, Rotunda Hospital

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### MINUTES OF LAST MEETING HELD ON 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011

The Executive agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

### MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

### RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN IBEC AND THE VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS GROUP

Siobhan Masterson is anxious to work with the AHCE to develop a more strategic direction. We need to reach a consensus on strategic issues to be developed with IBEC. . It was proposed that a meeting would be held towards end of January 2012 to formulate a work programme and key policy objectives for 2012.

It was agreed that the meeting requested with Cathal Magee should be followed up again.

### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

It was agreed that further efforts should be made to activate the Special Interest Groups. Leads for the various groups would have an opportunity to share information at a meeting between 1.00 p.m. – 2.00 p.m., in advance of the quarterly IBEC meetings. It would be helpful if the Leads for the various groups would prepare a brief report on key issues in their area.

See names attached to Special Interest Groups:

- (Was Anne Broekhoven) Lead for the Single Speciality Special Interest Group.
- Liam Duffy: Lead for the DATHs Special Interest Group.
- Pauline Treanor: Lead for the Maternity Special Interest Group.

- Ger O’Callaghan: Lead for the Acutes - Outside Dublin Special Interest Group.
- Kevin O’Dwyer: Lead for the Palliative Care Special Interest Group.
- Lorcan Birthistle: Lead for the Paediatrics Special Interest Group

#### **CONSULTANT APPOINTMENTS (PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS SERVICE)**

There was general agreement that the selection process is working well, but that post selection the process is slow, i.e. the appointment process is slow via HSE Manorhamilton.

#### **VR AND VER SCHEMES**

Early Retirement Schemes – if a hospital wishes to refuse a staff member taking the early retirement scheme, there is a right of appeal in place. There are exempted categories of staff. There are a lot of “frontline” staff leaving. The scheme is based on “cost neutral” early retirement and the post and funding goes.

#### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

It was agreed that a Vice-Chair of the AHCE needs to be appointed and this will be discussed at the next meeting.

There was some discussion on the matter of a budget change in relation to private rooms in public hospitals, i.e. a patient with health insurance can be charged for any bed, e.g. a public bed.

It was commented that the Special Delivery Unit of the Department of Health is being effective in achieving targets, e.g. waiting lists. It was noted that the HSE does not have any direct involvement in the Special Delivery Unit.

#### **NEXT MEETING OF AHCE EXECUTIVE**

AHCE Executive meetings for 2012 will be held end January/early February, March, May, September and November 2012.

Date for next meeting to be agreed, i.e. end January or early February, 2012.

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**ETHEL MCKENNA,  
AHCE HONORARY SECRETARY.**