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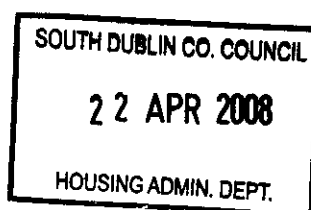
THE ADELAIDE & MEATH
HOSPITAL, DUBLIN
INCORPORATING
THE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

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18th April 08
Ms. Joan Kelly,
Senior Staff Officer,
Housing Administration,
Housing Department,
South Dublin County Council,
County Hall,
Town Centre,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24.



Re: Tallaght Area Committee Meeting – 26th November 2007

Dear Ms. Kelly,

Your letter 3rd December 2007 regarding the above refers.

Firstly, may I apologise for the delay in responding.

1. Paediatric Services

The Adelaide and Meath Hospital, Dublin incorporating the National Children's Hospital (AMNCH) made a submission, March 2006, to the Health Service Executive (HSE) outlining the benefits of locating the then proposed new National Children's Hospital at Tallaght. The HSE together with its external advisors, considered submissions from a range of interested parties. Following detailed evaluations the decision of the HSE Group was to locate the new National Children's Hospital on a site adjacent to the present Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin 7.

Subsequent discussions ensued with the Chairman, Board Members and Chief Executive Officer of AMNCH.

The present configuration of the National Children's Hospital in Tallaght is 5,000 m². A feature of the development of Children's Health Services for Dublin is that there will be a new state of the art Ambulatory and Urgent Care Centre comprising 6,200m² on the Tallaght Hospital site.

This development has been welcomed by the Board of the Adelaide and Meath Hospital, Dublin incorporating the National Children's Hospital, it should be appreciated that there will be systems in place to ensure that all necessary medical care is available for children particularly when requiring

urgent or emergency care irrespective of their place of residence.

2. Cancer Services

International best practice recognised the need to undertake a review of Cancer services for the island of Ireland. The Health Service Executive engaged the services of an external expert in the area and the recommendations were accepted by the Board of the HSE that there would be a number of designated centres. While recognising that it did perform cancer services, The Adelaide and Meath Hospital, Dublin incorporating the National Children's Hospital was not specifically included as a designated centre.

Discussions have taken place between the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Hospital with Professor Tom Keane and the Health Service Executive regarding the extent of cancer services at Tallaght.

It should be noted that representatives of the Board of AMNCH, the Board of St. James's Hospital and of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Trinity College Dublin have been in extensive discussions regarding a co-ordinated approach to the delivery of a range of medical services including cancer services.

3. Consultant Posts

The Board of the Hospital recognises the need for additional Consultant appointments. While noting the recent posts approved by the Health Service Executive did not include new posts for AMNCH discussions are ongoing with the HSE to address this matter. In particular we are keen to reach agreement on urgently needed Consultants in Emergency Medicine.

4. Co-located Private Hospital

The HSE on behalf of itself and a number of publicly funded hospitals initiated a tender competition for the co location of private hospital on public hospital campuses.

The Adelaide and Meath Hospital, Dublin incorporating the National Children's Hospital at Tallaght was one such campus. The Board of the Hospital entered into the formal process welcoming this proposal as a means of providing additional infrastructure, beds and resources.

Under this proposal, the present private beds in the Hospital would be re-designated as public beds, thereby providing 120 additional public beds.

I trust this addresses the issues raised in your letter.

Yours sincerely,



DR. GERRY FITZPATRICK
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER