

NORTHERN IRELAND AMBULANCE SERVICE

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Trust Board held at 1.30pm on Thursday,
24 March 2005 in the Boardroom, Tyrone and Fermanagh Hospital,
Donaghane Road, Omagh, Co Tyrone, BT79 0NS**

Present:

Mr D Smyth OBE	Chairman
Mr L McIvor	Chief Executive
Ms R O'Hara	Director of Human Resources
Mrs S McCue	Director of Finance
Dr D McManus	Medical Director
Mr F Hughes	Non Executive Director
Mrs L Gillespie	Non Executive Director
Prof R Perrott	Non Executive Director
Mrs M Greer	Non Executive Director

In Attendance:

Mr B Snoddy	Director of Operations(Acting)
Miss A Vitty	Corporate Manager
Mrs M Crawford	Personal Assistant

1.0 Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Mr S Mullan, Non Executive Director

2.0 Welcome and Format of the Meeting

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming members of the public and Trust Board.

3.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting of the Trust Board held on 27 January 2005

Trust Board members unanimously agreed the previous minutes as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

It was also noted that:

- Work at Northland Fire Station to provide an additional response point in the West has been delayed until the New Year due to contractual difficulties.
- NIAS response to a recent airport alert. Whilst, the alert was stood down within 15 minutes, personnel and vehicles were already responding. Members noted that this activity is not captured in current NIAS performance figures.

After some discussion it was considered that a change to the measurement of activity in 15 minutes intervals throughout the day would allow for this activity to be captured and credited as part of service output.

7.0 Financial Position of the Trust as at 31/01/05

The Director of Finance drew member's attention to the Executive Summary and the projected 'break even' position.

Costs in respect of Agenda for Change are to be reimbursed in full.

It was noted that there is a slight increase in sickness absence from 7.81% for January 2004 to 7.93% in January 2005. This area remains closely monitored.

Legal claims and fees is an area which continues to be monitored and stands at £262,794.

An increase in mileage was noted, this was up by 7.5% on the same period last year. It was noted that PCS mileage has increased significantly.

Service performance was running above contract in all four Board areas. Members commended the Finance Team for their work.

8.0 Summary of Complaints/Compliments (Period 01/01/05 to 28/02/05)

The Director of Human Resources advised that there are presently twelve active complaints. It was noted that responses to complaints were within set timeframes. The Director of Operations and Medical Director take an active role in monitoring this situation.

Some discussion ensued around the issues raised in Complaints 5.1 and 5.3 of the report provided:

11.0 Forum for Questions

No questions were received.

12.0 Any Other Business

12.1 The Review of Public Administration

Members welcomed the recommendations made in respect of NIAS contained within the document.

13.0 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Trust Board is to be held on the 5 May 2005 at NIAS Headquarters.

The Chairman thanked members of the Trust Board and members of the public for their attendance and called proceedings to a close.

Signed: 
(Chairman)

Date: 05/05/2005