

STATEMENT
Issued by Board of Directors
at
Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin

RE : New Children's Hospital

11 January 2007

The Board of Directors of Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin discussed the engagement of the hospital with the Department of Health and HSE Transition Group and Development Board set up to plan for the new children's hospital. The Board reluctantly decided at its meeting yesterday that the hospital would not be in a position to engage with the Transition Group any further.

The hospital appreciates that the HSE will be very disappointed with this decision. The decision was taken against a background of very significant concerns expressed in a series of letters, to the Board of Directors, by the Medical Staff, Nursing, Allied Health Care Professionals and administrative staff in relation to concerns about the inadequacy of the site at the Mater Hospital, access to the site and the process set up to progress the project.

Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin has set out in its submission (March 2006) to the DOH/HSE Joint Task Group and in its report "A World Class Tertiary Children's Hospital for Ireland" (September 2006), the requirements to be addressed in order to achieve the objective of a comprehensive world class children's hospital for Ireland. It is the Board of Directors view that the Mater Site would not meet these requirements and that a golden opportunity would be lost to achieve our mutually shared objectives of a world class facility.

The Board of Directors is also of the view that, as the organisational arrangements and processes to date do not involve paediatric expertise (both national and international), they are flawed and therefore questionable in achieving an optimal outcome for the project.

See www.olchc.ie – new children's hospital for reports

Ends

See Archbishop of Dublin statement:

www.dublindiocese.ie/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=521&Itemid=20