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Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2021

# for the year ended 31 December 2021

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#### National Paediatric Hospital Development Board For the year ended 31 December 2021

#### **Statement on Internal Control**

#### Scope of Responsibility

On behalf of the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board (NPHDB), we acknowledge the Board's responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated. This responsibility takes account of the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016).

#### Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a tolerable level rather than to eliminate it. The system can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or detected in a timely way.

The system of internal control, which accords with guidance issued by the Department of Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform has been in place in the NPHDB for the year ended 31 December 2021 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements.

#### Capacity to Handle Risk

The NPHDB has a Finance, Audit & Risk Sub-Committee (FARSC) comprising three Board members and one external FARSC member. The FARSC has the necessary, financial and audit expertise, one of whom is the FARSC Chair. The FARSC met eight times in 2021.

The NPHDB has also established an internal audit function which is adequately resourced and conducts a programme of work agreed with the FARSC. The internal audit function is externally sourced and covered the annual internal controls review in 2021.

The FARSC has a Risk Managment Statement including a risk management framework and policy which sets out the NPHDB's risk appetite, the risk management processes and details the roles and responsibilities of NPHDB personnel in relation to risk. The policy and procedure has been made available to all NPHDB personnel who are required to work within these. NPHDB personnel are also responsible for alerting management on any emerging risks and control weaknesses they become aware of, and have responsibility for risks and controls within their own area of work.

#### **Risk and Control Framework**

The NPHDB has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks along with the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, to mitigate those risks. A key objective of the risk management process is to plan and allocate resources to ensure risks are managed and mitigated to an acceptable level.

A risk register is in place which identifies the key risks the NCH project faces across various workstreams, and these risks have been evaluated and rated according to their probability and likely impact. The project risk register was reviewed by the FARSC twice and also reviewed by the Board at their respective meetings in 2021.

The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate and/or minimise the impact of risk and responsibility for operation of controls is assigned to specific NPHDB project personnel. The NPHDB confirm that a control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- procedures for all key business processes have been documented;
- financial responsibilities have been assigned at Executive level with corresponding accountability;
- there is an appropriate budgeting system with an annual budget which is kept under review by the Executive;

• there are systems in place aimed at ensuring the security of the information and documentation generated on the project; and

• there are systems in place to safeguard the assets.

#### **Ongoing Monitoring and Review**

Formal procedures have been established for monitoring control processes and if any control deficiencies arise, these are communicated to those responsible to take corrective action and reported to the Executive and the Board, where relevant, in a timely way. We confirm that the following ongoing monitoring systems are in place:

- key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies;
- reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned; and
- there are regular reviews by the Executive of periodic and annual performance and financial reports which indicate performance against budgets/forecasts.

#### Procurement

We confirm that the NPHDB has a policy and procedures in place to ensure compliance with current procurement rules and guidelines and that during 2021 the NPHDB complied with those procedures.

#### **Revenue Penalty Charge**

Up until August 2018 the NPHDB had not considered itself to be the Principal Contractor and therefore not subject to Relevant Contract Tax (RCT) in its transactions with the Main Construction Contractor (BAM).

The Revenue Commissioners initiated a meeting with the NPHDB regarding this matter in September 2019 and the NPHDB made an unprompted voluntary disclosure to the Revenue Commissioners for the BAM payments from 2016 to August 2018 and included a disclosure in relation to the non-reporting of PSWT of non-Irish suppliers.

Negotiations concluded in relation to the RCT and the PSWT penalty liabilities on 21 March 2022. The NPHDB was notified of the RCT penalty liability of €938,665 and the PSWT liability of €48,237, as summarised below.

	Value (inc VAT)	RCT/Vat Cost	Mitigated Penalty @ 1%	Description
Unreported BAM Payment	93,866,544	11,164,743	938,665	RCT
Other	910,118,088	104,056,043	48,237	PSWT
Total as at March 2022	1,003,984,632	115,220,786	986,902	
			0.86%	

#### **Review of Effectiveness**

We confirm that the NPHDB has procedures to monitor the effectiveness of its risk management and control procedures. The NPHDB's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal controls is informed by the work of the internal and external auditors, the FARSC which oversees their work, and the Executive within the NPHDB responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

To provide the Executive and the Board with accurate up to date information on the status of each project workstream, an integrated reporting system has been put in place with defined key performance indicators (KPIs) for the workstreams. The system is actively used by the NPHDB as part of day-to-day project controls arrangements.

We confirm that the Board conducted an annual review of the effectiveness of the internal controls on 13 July 2022. This review was scheduled for the first quarter of 2022 but was delayed due to extenuating circumstances faced by the NPHDB.

During 2021 significant progress was made in developing and implementing controls, performance management and the mitigation of risk for the NCH (New Children's Hospital) construction contract including other project workstreams. The NPHDB (along with Children's Health Ireland (CHI)) provides detailed risk, cost and programme monthly updates to the Children's Hospital Programme & Project Steering Group and quarterly updates to the Children's Hospital Programme & Project Steering Group and quarterly updates to the Children's Hospital Programme & Project Steering Group and quarterly updates to the Children's Hospital Programme timelines and the overall project performance.

The NPHDB have taken the following steps to minimise the impact of Covid-19 on the project:

- The NPHDB have developed a Covid-19 protocol for office working arrangements in line with the Covid-19 public health advice and Government guidelines; and
- The risk register was updated to include a section on Covid-19 in April 2020 and in October 2020 the Covid-19 risks were migrated into the main project risk register. The risk register was reviewed by the Executive and at the FARSC and the Board meetings as noted in the various minutes.

While BAM continue to make claims on the project including costs associated with Covid-19, none of these have been accepted by the Employers Representative under the contract. The contract with BAM as written does not provide for BAM to receive compensation for the Covid-19 event.

On behalf of the Board of the NPHDB:

An **Fiona Ross** Chairperson

National Paediatric Hospital Development Board

Date: 23rd August 2023

Michael Barry Board Member & Finance, Audit and Risk Sub-Committee Chairperson National Paediatric Hospital Development Board

#### National Paediatric Hospital Development Board For the year ended 31 December 2021

#### Governance Statement and Board Members' Report

#### Governance

The Board of the NPHDB was established under Statutory Instrument (S.I.) No.246 of 2007 and amended by the Children's Health Act 2018. The functions of the Board are set out in section 5 of the S.I. and section 61 of the Children's Health Act 2018. The Board is accountable to the Minister for Health and is responsible for ensuring good governance and performs this task by setting strategic objectives and targets and taking strategic decisions on all key project issues. The regular day-to-day management, control, and direction of the NPHDB are the responsibility of the Chief Officer (CO) and the senior management team. The CO and the senior management team must follow the broad strategic direction set by the Board and must ensure that all Board members have a clear understanding of the key activities and decisions related to the entity, and of any significant tasks likely to arise. The CO acts as a direct liaison between the Board and the management of the NPHDB.

The NPHDB is responsible for planning, designing, building, equipping, and furnishing an NCH and two OP & UCCs in accordance with the high-level framework brief which was commissioned by the Health Service Executive (HSE).

CHI is the client for the project and provides ongoing advice and support in relation to the design and equipping requirements of the NCH and OP & UCCs.

#### Functions of the NPHDB

The functions of the NPHDB, as outlined in S.I. 246 of 2007 and amended by the Children's Health Act 2018, are:

- to plan, design, build, furnish, and equip a national paediatric hospital (NCH) in accordance with a brief approved by the HSE with the prior consent of the Minister, and subject to any subsequent variations to this brief as may be determined by the HSE in consultation with the NPHDB, and with prior consent of the Minister; and
- do any other thing as is necessary for the performance of its functions.

#### **Board Responsibilities**

The work and responsibilities of the Board are set out in the NPHDB Code of Governance manual, which also contain the matters specifically reserved for Board decision. Standing items considered by the Board include:

- declaration of interests;
- review and approval of minutes and action items;
- reports from committees;
- financial reports;
- performance reports; and
- reserved matters.

Section 14 of the Statutory Instrument (S.I.) No.246 of 2007 requires the Board of the NPHDB to keep, in such form as may be approved by the Minister for Health with consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform, all proper and usual accounts of money received and expended by it.

In preparing these financial statements, the Board of the NPHDB is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that it will continue in existence; and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in financial statements.

The Board is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, its financial position and enables it to ensure that the financial statements comply with Section 14 of the S.I. No.246 of 2007. The maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information on the NPHDB's website, www.newchildrenshospital.ie, is the responsibility of the Board.

The Board is responsible for approving the annual plan and budget. An evaluation of the performance of the NPHDB by reference to the annual plan and budget is carried out on a monthly basis at the Board meeting. An evaluation of the yearly performance of the NPHDB by reference to the annual plan and budget was carried out at the Board meeting of 09 December 2021.

The Board is also responsible for safeguarding it's assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and the detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Board considers that the financial statements of the NPHDB give a true and fair view of the financial performance and the financial position of the NPHDB at 31 December 2021.

The Children's Health Act 2018 (part 9) has included the following sections relating to the Board. Section - 62 and

- Section 64: Liability for loss occurring before dissolution day;
- Section 65: Provisions consequent upon transfer of functions, property, rights and liabilities to Executive;
- Section 66: Final accounts and final annual report to the Board; and
- Section 67: Cessation of membership of the Board.

The Children's Health Act 2018 was passed by Dáil Éireann on 07 November 2018. All sections of Part 9 of the Act have been commenced, except for Section 61(b)(i)(I)) and section 67.

#### **Board Structure**

The Board consists of a Chairperson and up to twelve ordinary members, all of whom are appointed by the Minister for Health and meet on a monthly basis. The table on page 8 details the appointment period for the members in 2021:

#### Governance Statement and Board Members' Report (Cont'd)

Board Member	Role	Date Appointed	Date of Reappointment	Appointment
				confirmed to:
Ms Fiona Ross	Chairperson	16 September 2021		30 July 2023
Mr Fred Barry	Chairperson	06 February 2019		28 February 2021
Mr Tim Bouchier-Hayes	Deputy Chairperson	02 August 2013	16 July 2018	31 July 2023
Mr John Cole	Ordinary Member	02 August 2013	16 July 2018	31 July 2023
Mr Karl Kent	Ordinary Member	02 August 2013	16 July 2018	31 July 2023
Ms Anne Butler	Ordinary Member	02 August 2013	19 July 2018	31 July 2023
Mr Liam Woods	Ordinary Member	04 March 2015	16 July 2018	31 July 2023
Mr Michael Shelly	Ordinary Member	20 February 2020		20 February 2025
Mr John McGowan	Ordinary Member	20 February 2020		20 February 2025
Mr Michael Barry	Ordinary Member	23 February 2021		23 February 2026
Mr Brian Keogh	Ordinary Member	23 February 2021		23 February 2026

The Board completed a Self-Assessment and Evaluation review for 2021 which was undertaken during December 2021 in accordance with the requirements of the Corporate Governance Code. The Board Self-Evaluation was reviewed at the February 2022 Board meeting. The Board also commenced an external Board Evaluation review in December 2020, with the findings of this review presented to the Board at the May 2021 Board meeting. The updated Code of Governance manual was also reviewed by the Board at the March 2022 Board Meeting.

The Board has adopted the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies 2009, which was replaced on 1 September 2016 by the Code of Governance for State Bodies 2016 (the State Code) and supplemented in September 2020 with additional requirements in respect of diversity and inclusion, and continues to review and implement the provisions of the State Code. The Board is committed to maintaining the highest standards of corporate governance, and to monitoring compliance on an on-going basis. The gender balance of the Board is 80% male and 20% female.

In 2021 the Board was supported by four Sub-Committees as follows:

1. The Finance, Audit and Risk Sub-Committee (FARSC) comprises three NPHDB Board members and one independent member. The role of the committee is to monitor and review the integrity of the financial statements, the management accounts and make recommendations to the Board; monitor and review the internal controls; review arrangements for Protected Disclosures; monitor and review the Internal Audit function, external auditors, risk management and governance, to review and recommend the annual financial plan to the Board; monitor progress against project schedule and cash-flow/funding to complete the project on plan and update the Board; support evaluation of specific SAQ/tenders and report to the Board; and review and recommend change orders for approval to the Board.

The NPHDB Board members of the FARSC as at 31st December 2021 were Michael Barry (Chair), Fiona Ross and Liam Woods. Denise Cronin joined the committee in Nov 2021 as an independent committee member. There were 8 meetings of the FARSC in 2021.

2. The Design Sub-Committee (DSC) comprises two NPHDB Board members and five independent members. The role of the committee is to champion the pursuit of design excellence throughout the project; quality assure the procurement process, participate in regular reviews of the design development and make recommendations to the Board, liaise as appropriate with other key stakeholders and oversee the coordinated integration of a programme of art into the project design.

The NPHDB Board members of the DSC are John Cole (Chair) and Karl Kent. Eilish Hardiman (CEO, CHI), Deirdre Hegarty (Chief Commissioning Officer (CCO), CHI), Paul de Freine (Chief Architectural Advisor, HSE Estates), Charlie Dolan (Architectural Advisor, HSE Estates) and Damien Clarke (Estate Manager, HBS Estates) are the independent members. There were 5 meetings of the DSC in 2021.

3. The Disputes Resolution Sub-Committee (DRSC) comprises four NPHDB Board members and the NPHDB Executive. The role of the committee is to review, monitor and consider actions required in relation to the Main Contractor claims; and liaise with the Board in relation to progressing any such claims and any proposals or recommendations to address or resolve these claims.

The NPHDB Board members of the DRSC are Michael Shelly (Chair), Tim Bouchier-Hayes, Brian Keogh and Karl Kent. There were 8 meetings of the DRSC in 2021.

4. The Commissioning, Qualification and Validation Sub-Committee (CQVSC) comprises four NPHDB Board members and one independent member. The role of the committee is to review, monitor and consider the Technical Commissioning Strategy and Plan for the NCH and Tallaght OP & UCC and liaise with and report to the Board.

The NPHDB Board members of the CQVSC are John Cole (Chair), John McGowan, Michael Shelly and Brian Keogh. Damien Clarke is the independent member. There were 4 meetings of the CQVSC in 2021.

#### Schedule of Attendance, Fees and Expenses

A schedule of attendance at the Board and Committee meetings for 2021 is set out on the following page including the fees and expenses received by each member:

There was one Board member, Liam Woods who did not receive a Board fee under the One Person One Salary (OPOS) principle.

#### **Key Personnel Changes**

Mr Michael Barry was appointed to the Board on 23 February 2021.

Mr Brian Keogh was appointed to the Board on 23 February 2021.

Mr Fred Barry tendered his resignation and left the Board on 28 February 2021.

Ms Fiona Ross was appointed to the Board on 16 September 2021.

Schedule of Attendance, Fees and Expenses						TICCS	Expense
		AA	ģ	80	ð,	2021	2021 2021
	Piec	S.	Ś	¢. €	95h	€'000	€'000
No of meetings	13	8	5	8	4		
Ms Fiona Ross (joined 16.09.21)	4 (4)	2 (2)				Γ	
Mr Fred Barry (resigned 28.02.21)	3 (3)	1(1)		1 (1)	1(1)	ω	
Mr Tim Bouchier-Hayes	13 (13)	6 (6)		(8)		17	
Mr John Cole	13 (13)		5 (5)		4 (4)	12	
Mr Karl Kent	13 (13)		5 (5)	(8)		12	
Ms Anne Butler	13 (13)					12	
Mr. Liam Woods	11 (13)	6 (8)					
Mr Michael Shelly	13 (13)			7 (8)	4 (4)	12	
Mr John McGowan	10 (13)				4 (4)	12	
Mr Michael Barry (joined 23.02.21)	9 (9)	7(7)				10	
Mr Brian Keogh (joined 23.02.21)	9 (9)			7 (8)	2 (2)	10	
Mr Paul de Freine			4 (5)				
Mr Charlie Dolan			2 (5)	,			
Mr Damien Clarke			1 (5)		3 (4)		
Ms Eilish Hardiman			5 (5)				
Ms Deirdre Hegarty			1 (1)		0(1)		
Mr Alan Seabourne			4 (5)		a.		
Ms Denise Cronin		1 (2)			1		
						107	

The first number indicates the number of meetings a Board / Committee member attended in the year

The bracket number indicates the maximun number of meetings that a Board / Committee member could attend in the year

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#### **Claims Management**

A contract was entered into by the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board ("NPHDB") and BAM Ireland Limited ("Contractor") for the construction and part design of the New Children's Hospital (the "Contract").

The Contract sets out a requirement that, where the Contractor considers that there is an entitlement to an adjustment to the Adjusted Contract Sum and/or the date for Substantial Completion (as defined in the Contract), it shall serve notice of its claim and information supporting the claim on the Employer's Representative ("ER"), who has been appointed pursuant to the Contract, within specified notice periods pursuant to the requirements of Clause 10.3 of the Contract.

The Contract provides that for adjustments, claims shall be considered and determined initially by the ER. In the event of the ER's Determination being disputed by a party to the Contract, the Dispute may be referred, in accordance with the Dispute Resolution Procedures set out in the Contract, to the Project Board and, if required, thereafter to Conciliation. Claims not resolved at Conciliation may potentially proceed to court proceedings, as provided for in the Contract.

As of the date of 30 April 2023, the ER had been notified, by the Contractor, of 2,506 claims for adjustment. Subsequently, the Contractor withdrew 458 of the previously notified claims. This results in a net quantity of 2,048 Contractor claims. Of the total notices of claims, submitted by the Contractor, supporting information has been provided by the Contractor to the ER in respect of 1,653 claims (including 3 inflation claims). The amount claimed by the Contractor in respect of these claims is  $\epsilon$ 673,488,540. The difference of 395 claims are claims that have been the subject of initial notifications submitted by the Contractor, but supporting information had not been provided as of the date of this report. 11 of these 1,653 claims, which were referred to dispute, under the Dispute Management Procedure, in accordance with the Contract, have been resolved between the parties. There remain 1,249 claims and adjustment referred to dispute in accordance with the Contract by the Parties.

The NPHDB disputes the validity of a large number of the Contractor's claims, and specifically, where the adjustment sought is greater than the amount and/or extension of time, as determined by the ER. In such circumstances, it would not be appropriate to make an estimate of any liability arising from a decision, ultimately to be made by the High Court.

The NPHDB is committed to seeking a fair and equitable resolution of all disputed claims, in order to minimise Project risk and to achieve Project completion on a timely basis. Notwithstanding this, the Board recognises that there are, in some instances, very substantial differences of:

(a) Positions, as between the ER's assessments and determinations of the Contractor's claims and the adjustments sought by the Contractor;

(b) Positions as between the NPHDB's own assessments and determinations of the Contractor's claims, and the adjustments sought by the Contractor.

#### Disclosures Required by Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016)

The Board is responsible for ensuring that the NPHDB has complied with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies ("the Code"), as published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in August 2016. The following disclosures are required by the Code.

#### Employee Short-Term Benefits Breakdown

Employees' short-term benefits in excess of €60,000 are categorised into the following bands:

Range		Number of employees	
From	То	2021	2020
€60,000 -	€69,999	0	0
€70,000 -	€79,999	0	1
€80,000 -	€89,999	5	6
€90,000 -	€99,999	0	1
€100,000 -	€109,999	0	0
€110,000 -	€119,999	0	0
€120,000 -	€129,999	0	1
€130,000 -	€139,999	0	0
€140,000 -	€149,999	0	0
€150,000 -	€159,999	0	0
€160,000 -	€169,999	0	0
€170,000 -	€179,999	0	0
€180,000 -	€189,999	1	1
€190,000 -	€199,999	0	0
€200,000 -	€209,999	1	1
Above €210,000		0	0

#### **Consultancy** Costs

Consultancy costs are all outsourced "Business-as-usual" functions.

#### Legal Costs and Settlements

In 2021 the legal fees relating to the O'Reilly Avenue injunction proceedings amounted to  $\notin$ 248k. The legal fees and The total legal fee expenditure in 2021 amounted to  $\notin$ 262k and the Litigation & Claims Defence expenditure in 2021 amounted to  $\notin$ 1,791k as per note 2 (vi) on page 22.

#### Travel and Subsistence Expenditure

Travel and subsistence expenditure is categorised as follows:

	2021	2020
Domestic	€'000	€'000
- Board	0	0
- Employees	2	2
International		
- Board	1	1
- Employees	0	0
-		
Total	3	3

#### Hospitality Expenditure

There was no Hospitality Expenditure incurred in 2021.

**Board Diversity** 

As at 31st December 2021, the diversity breakdown of the 10 Board members was 8 male and 2 female.

#### Statement of Compliance

The Board has adopted the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016) and has put procedures in place to ensure compliance with the Code. The NPHDB was in full compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies for 2021.

On behalf of the Board of the NPHDB:

**Fiona Ross** Chairperson

National Paediatric Hospital Development Board

Date: 23rd August 2023

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Michael Barry Board Member & Finance, Audit and Risk Sub-Committee Chairperson National Paediatric Hospital Development Board



# Ard Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste Comptroller and Auditor General

# Report for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

## The National Paediatric Hospital Development Board

#### Opinion on the financial statements

I have audited the financial statements of the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board for the year ended 31 December 2021 as required under the provisions of Section 5 of the Comptroller and Auditor General Amendment Act 1993. The financial statements comprise

- the statement of income and expenditure and retained revenue reserves,
- the statement of financial position,
- the statement of cash flows, and
- the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board at 31 December 2021 and of its income and expenditure for 2021 in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 — *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland.* 

#### Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as promulgated by the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions. My responsibilities under those standards are described in the appendix to this report. I am independent of the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board and have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the standards.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### Report on information other than the financial statements, and on other matters

The National Paediatric Hospital Development Board has presented certain other information together with the financial statements. This comprises the annual report, the governance statement and Board members' report, and the statement on internal control. My responsibilities to report in relation to such information, and on certain other matters upon which I report by exception, are described in the appendix to this report.

#### Payment to Revenue Commissioners

The statement on internal control discloses the circumstances that resulted in the National Paediatric Development Board making a settlement of just under €987,000 with the Revenue Commissioners in March 2022.

Seams Mc Car bly.

Seamus McCarthy Comptroller and Auditor General 22 September 2023

#### Responsibilities of the Board members

As detailed in the governance statement and Board members' report, the Board members are responsible for

- the preparation of annual financial statements in the form prescribed under section 14 of the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board (Establishment) Order 2007 (SI 246/2007)
- ensuring that the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with FRS102
- ensuring the regularity of transactions
- assessing whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate, and
- such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

# Responsibilities of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I am required under Section 5 of the Comptroller and Auditor General Amendment Act 1993 to audit the financial statements of the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board and to report thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas.

My objective in carrying out the audit is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement due to fraud or error. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. In doing so,

- I identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls.
- I evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures.

- I conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, on whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my report. However, future events or conditions may cause the National Paediatric Hospital Development Board to cease to continue as a going concern.
- I evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I report by exception if, in my opinion,

- I have not received all the information and explanations I required for my audit, or
- the accounting records were not sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.

#### Information other than the financial statements

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information presented with those statements, and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, I am required under the ISAs to read the other information presented and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or with knowledge obtained during the audit, or if it otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

#### Reporting on other matters

My audit is conducted by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. I report if I identify material matters relating to the manner in which public business has been conducted.

I seek to obtain evidence about the regularity of financial transactions in the course of audit. I report if I identify any material instance where public money has not been applied for the purposes intended or where transactions did not conform to the authorities governing them.

## Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Income Oireachtas grants Total Income	9	<u> </u>	161,215 161,215
Expenditure Administration & Operations Total Expenditure	2	<u> </u>	<u>161,215</u> <u>161,215</u>
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year before Appropriations		-	-
Transfer from/(to) the Capital Account Transfer to construction work in progress	7 2	(302,820) 302,820	(161,215) 161,215
		-	-
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year after Appropriations		-	-
Balance Brought Forward at 01 January			<u> </u>
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year at 31 December			

All income and expenditure for the year relates to continuing activities at the balance sheet date.

The Statement of Income & Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The Statement of Cash Flows and notes 1 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of the NPHDB:

Fiona Ross Chairperson

National Paediatric Hospital Development Board

Date: 23rd August 2023

Man

Michael Barry Board Member & Finance, Audit and Risk Sub-Committee Chairperson National Paediatric Hospital Development Board

#### Statement of Financial Position for the year ended 31 December 2021

		2021	2020
	Note	€'000	€'000
Fixed Assets			
Construction work in progress	2	837,221	583,683
Total Fixed Assets		837,221	583,683
Current Assets			
Receivables	3	50,818	12,125
Cash and cash equivalents	4	11,522	22,416
		62,340	34,541
Current Liabilities (amounts falling due within one year)			
Payables	6	(62,340)	(34,541)
x			
Net Current Assets		0	0
		927 221	507 607
Total Net Assets		837,221	583,683
Depresented by			
Represented by:	7	837,221	583,683
Capital account	1	057,221	565,065
		837,221	583,683
			115,000

The Statement of Cash Flows and notes 1 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of the NPHDB:

**Fiona Ross** Chairperson

National Paediatric Hospital Development Board

Date: 23rd August 2023

Michael Barry Board Member & Finance, Audit and Risk Sub-Committee Chairperson

National Paediatric Hospital

Development Board

## Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities		
Excess Income over Expenditure	-	-
(Increase) / Decrease in Receivables	(38,693)	6,650
Increase / (Decrease) in Payables	27,800	12,021
Bank interest received		-
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities	(10,893)	18,671
Cash Flows from Financing Activities Bank Interest received Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities		<u> </u>
Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(10,893)	18,671
Cash and cash equivalents at 01 January Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	22,416 11,523	3,745 22,416

#### 1. Accounting Policies

The basis of accounting and significant accounting policies adopted by the NPHDB are set out below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the year and for the preceding year.

#### a) Statement of Compliance

The financial statements of the NPHDB for the year ended 31 December 2021 have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102, the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC) in the UK.

#### b) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared:

i) under the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities that are measured at fair values as explained in the accounting policies below. The financial statements are in the form approved by the Minister for Health with the concurrence of the Minister for Finance under the S.I. No.246 of 2007. The following accounting policies (c to m) have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the NPHDB's financial statements; and

ii) on a going concern basis. While legislation has been drafted for the dissolution of the Board the legislation provides for the transfer of all assets and liabilities to the Health Service Executive. Accordingly no adjustments to the carrying value of asset or liabilities were required.

#### c) Revenue Oireachtas Grants

Creat income comprises grants receivable from the USE toward

Grant income comprises grants receivable from the HSE towards the planning, design, construction, and commissioning of a national paediatric hospital. Grants are recognised as income in line with expenditure.

#### d) Expenditure

All expenditure, including administrative costs, incurred by the Board are recognised on an accruals basis and capitalised and transferred to construction work in progress and are not depreciated. All expenditure incurred is classified by cost type. As VAT is irrecoverable it is charged against the category for which it is incurred.

#### e) Fixed assets - construction work in progress

All fixed asset acquisitions, regardless of the source of funds, are capitalised as construction work in progress and are not depreciated.

If there is objective evidence of impairment of the value of an asset, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue reserves in the year.

#### f) Operating Leases

Rental expenditure under operating leases is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves over the life of the lease. Expenditure is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease period.

### g) Payables

Payables are initially recognised at fair value. Payables are classified as current if payable within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non current liabilities.

#### h) Capital Account

The capital account represents the unamortised value of funding applied for the purchase of fixed assets - Construction work in progress.

#### i) Retirement Benefits

The Public Service (Single Scheme and Other Provisions) Act 2012 became law on 28 July 2012 and introduced the new Single Public Service Pension Scheme ("Single Scheme") which commenced with effect from 01 January 2013. There are four employees and one former employee of the NPHDB that are members of the Single Scheme.

In accordance with direction from the Minister for Health, pensions are accounted for on a pay as you go basis. The provisions of FRS 102 'Section 28: Employee Benefits' are not applied and the liability for the future pension benefits accrued in the year has not been recognised in the financial statements.

The provision of the superannuation liability for the eight staff seconded to the Board during 2021, remains the responsibility of the respective employer body and not the NPHDB.

Other contributions are made to a PRSA pension contract. These contributions are funded out of capital income of the Board and are charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves in the year in which they become payable.

#### j) Receivables

The balance due from the HSE represents expenditure accrued by the Board for which funding has not yet been drawn down from the HSE. All other receivables are recognised at fair value.

## k) Short-term Employee Benefits

Short-term benefits such as holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the year, and benefits that are accrued at yearend are included in the Payables figure in the Statement of Financial Position.

## I) Critical Accounting Judgement and Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that effect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates.

There were no judgements required that had a significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements for 2021.

#### m) Community Benefit Oversight Group (CBOG)

In early 2015, a CBOG was established by the NPHDB and CHI to promote active engagement between community interests and the hospital project. In 2021, the NPHDB paid salary costs on behalf of the CBOG. The CBOG was also funded by the Bam Building and CHI. Funding received by the CBOG is lodged to a separate bank account administered by the NPHDB and monies are transferred from the CBOG bank account to reimburse the NPHDB for expenses incurred by it on behalf of the CBOG.

While the NPHDB provides administrative support, the CBOG has established a governance and reporting structure and internal control processes for the CBOG. As a result, the transactions related to the operation of the CBOG are treated as follows in the NPHDB's financial statements:

(1) NPHDB's financial statements recognise funding provided to the group as an administrative cost.

(2) The CBOG's bank balance is recognised in the NPHDB's financial statements. The related debtor and creditors are also included. The CBOG's income and expenditure is disclosed only by way of a Note to the NPHDB's financial statements. See Note 5.

#### 2. Administration & Operations / Construction work in progress

Total costs incurred to date amount to  $\epsilon$ 923,472k with costs of  $\epsilon$ 302,820k incurred in 2021. The table below shows the total cost incurred by cost category. As outlined in the accounting policy, VAT incurred in relation to expenditure incurred by the NPHDB is not recoverable. The table includes the amounts relating to irrecoverable VAT for information purposes.

		2021			Cumulat	ive to 31 Decemb	er 2021
	Excl.	Irrecoverable	Total		Excl.	Irrecoverable	Total
	VAT	VAT	Cost		VAT	VAT	Cost
	€'000	€'000	€'000		€'000	€'000	€'000
(i) BST / CMS *	4,567	1,005	5,572	_	18,172	4,114	22,286
(ii) Design Team	9,303	2,076	11,379		75,639	17,249	92,888
(iii) Site	27	4	31		27,145	3,997	31,142
(iv) Construction	227,319	31,506	258,825		610,929	83,111	694,040
(v) Equipment	1,200	264	1,464		3,038	685	3,723
(vi) Admin Costs	6,531	1,077	7,608		52,745	5,471	58,216
(vii) Inflation	15,807	2,134	17,941	_	18,658	2,519	21,177
-	264,754	38,066	302,820		806,326	117,146	923,472
Less Connolly & Tallaght Transfers: (a) Building costs to the HSE (b) Building & Equipment to the CHI Total Transfers	(43,220) (43,220)	- (6,062) (6,062)	- (49,282) (49,282)		(30,692) (44,866) (75,558)	(6,441)	(34,944) (51,307) (86,251)
Net Cost	221,534	32,004	253,538	•	730,768	106,453	837,221

\* BST / CMS is Business Services Team / Construction Management Services

		2020		Cumulati	ve to 31 Decemb	er 2020
	Excl.	Irrecoverable	Total	Excl.	Irrecoverable	Total
	VAT	VAT	Cost	VAT	VAT	Cost
	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000	€'000
(i) BST / CMS *	3,956	878	4,834	13,605	3,109	16,714
(ii) Design Team	7,385	1,601	8,986	66,336	15,172	81,508
(iii) Site development and clearance	54	9	63	27,118	3,993	31,111
(iv) Construction	119,892	16,181	136,073	383,610	51,605	435,215
(v) Equipment	192	43	235	1,838	421	2,259
(vi) Admin Costs	8,292	1,264	9,556	46,214	4,394	50,608
(vii) Inflation	1,293	175	1,468	2,851	385	3,236
	141,064	20,151	161,215	541,572	79,079	620,651
Less Connolly Transfers: (a) Building costs to the HSE (b) Equipment Cost to the CHI Total Transfers	- - -		-	(30,692) (1,645) (32,337)	(379)	(34,944) (2,024) (36,968)
Net Cost	141,064	20,151	161,215	 509,235	74,448	583,683

\* BST / CMS is Business Services Team / Construction Management Services

The building cost was transferred to the HSE, including all rights and interests, for the CHI OP & UCC at Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown to the value of  $\notin$ 34,946k (this includes an allocation of the estimated overheads incurred) on practical completion in May 2019. The final account for the building cost transferred has yet to be finalised due to one of the Satellite Centres Design Teams having made a claim under the Contract. The Design Team has made a claim for a final Net account value of  $\notin$ 158k for work completed on the Satellite Centres. Once this account has been settled the final building cost will be transferred to the HSE. This claim also includes cost relating to the Satellite Centre at Tallaght.

The building cost was transferred to CHI, including all rights and interests, for CHI OP & UCC Tallaght Hospital to the value of  $\epsilon$ 49,282k (this includes an allocation of the estimated overheads incurred) on practical completion in September 2021. The final account for the building cost transferred has yet to be finalised as one of the Satellite Centres Design Teams has made a claim under the Contract as noted above. Once this account has been settled the final building cost will be transferred to CHI.

A number of Main Contractor claims under the Contract, relating to the overall cost of the Project, have been referred to conciliation by the Main Contractor and a Recommendation has been issued by the Standing Conciliator in relation to those claims. The NPHDB has issued a Notice of Dissatisfaction in respect of the Conciliator's Recommendation and, as such, the final cost insofar as Connolly & Tallaght are concerned remains in dispute.

The Health Technology Equipment cost of  $\notin 2,024k$  was transferred to CHI by transfer agreement, where the NPHDB transferred the Health Technology Equipment cost, including all its rights, title and interest to CHI.

			- Capital Contribution (ESB Connection)	- Planning application costs	Contributions		- Owner Controlled Insurance	- Business case development	Project Costs		- Equipment Consultant	- Independent Adjudicator & Standing Conciliator	- Expert 3rd Party Reviews	- Recruitment Expenses	- Other Professional Fees	- Internal audit fees	- C&AG audit fees	& Media Relations Communications Services	- Community, Internal & External Stakeholder Engagement	- Site Monitoring & Progress Reporting	- Litigation & Claims Defence	- Legal expenses	Professional Fees		- Training Costs	- Bank Charges	- Travel & Subsistence	- Office Insurance	- Office fit out	- Rent & Service Fee	- Office expenses	- ICT	- Remuneration and other pay costs 2 (a)	Office Expenses	Note			2 (vi) Administration Costs:	
																																	u)			Vat	Excl.		
	6,531	4	4	0		10	10	0		4,341	0	156	31	0	119	29	48		275	2,002	1,466	215		2,176	15	56	4	44	11	109	97	390	1,450		e		Іптес		
	1,077	0	0	0		0	0	0		945	0	34	7	0	24	6	0		60	442	325	47		132	2	0	0	0	1	24	20	85	0		€'000	Vat	Irrecoverable		
	7,608	4	4	0		10	10	0		5,286	0	190	38	0	143	35	48		335	2,444	1,791	262		2,308	17	56	4	44	12	133	117	475	1,450		€'000	Cost	Total	2021	
																																			6		H		
	8,292	681	(22)	703		51	19	32		5,180	5	216	68	70	215	40	37		276	1,819	2,336	86		2,380	14	11	9	43	28	105	115	253	1,802		€'000	Vat	Excl.		10100 10 111 -
	1,264	0	0	0		5	0	S		1,120	1	35	15	15	55	9	0		53	400	514	23		139	0	0	1	0	υ	31	18	62	24		€'000	Vat	Irrecoverable		Totes to the Limitin Dunomond (Com c)
Page 23	9,556	681	(22)	703		56	19	37		6,300	6	251	83	58	270	49	37		329	2,219	2,850	121		2,519	14	11	10	43	31	136	133	315	1,826		€'000	Cost	Total	2020	5 (00m e)

#### Remuneration

2 (a) Remuneration and Other Pay Costs

	2021	2020
	€'000	€'000
Staff salaries	950	980
Secondee salaries	293	631
Employer's contribution to social welfare	91	93
Board members' emoluments	107	89
Retirement benefit costs	9	9
	1,450	1,802

The secondee salaries include costs associated with backfilling the secondee posts and locum fees.

#### 2 (b) Aggregate Employee Benefits

	2021	2020
	€'000	€'000
Basic Pay	1,244	1,611
Employer's contribution to social welfare	91	93
	1,335	1,704
The average number of employees (full time equivalents) during the year as follows:		

	2021	2020
Executive & Staff	9.6	10.4
Seconded Staff	3.8	4.9
Total	13.4	15.3

The total number of staff employed (FTE) at year ended was 11.9 (2020: 15.1)

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#### 2 (c) Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel in the NPHDB consists of the members of the Board, the Chief Officer, the Project Director, the Medical Director and the Finance Officer. The total value of employee benefits for key management personnel is set out below:

	2021	2020
	€'000	€'000
Salary	589	691
Retirement Benefit Costs	9	9
	598	700

The Chief Officer and the Project Director's pension entitlements do not extend beyond the standard entitlements in the model single public service pension scheme and a PRSA contract is in place for the Finance Officer. The remaining key management personnel are seconded staff. The amounts disclosed above do not include the value of retirement benefits earned in the period.

## 2 (d) Chief Officer Salary and Benefits

The Chief Officers remuneration package for the financial period was as a follows:

Chief Officer Basic Pay 3. Receivables		2021 €'000 184 184	2020 €'000 181 181
HSE grants due Other debtors and prepayments	Note 9	2021 €'000 30,911 19,906 50,818	2020 €'000 11,590 535 12,125
4. Cash & Cash Equivalents			
NPHDB bank balance Community Benefit Oversight Group bank balance	Note 5	2021 €'000 11,441 <u>81</u> 11,522	2020 €'000 22,340 76 22,416

#### 5. Cash & Cash Equivalents concerning Community Benefit Oversight Group (CBOG) Funding

As outlined in Accounting Policy l, NPHDB's financial statements includes a bank balance, debtors and creditors relating to the community benefit oversight group. The related figures together with the income and expenditure for the group for 2021 are set out below.

CBOG Bank Account:		2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Balance on deposit account on 01 January		76	53
Receipts:			
Linesight		10	
Bam Building		50	32
		60	32
Payments:			
Chairperson's Fees		(6)	(2)
Consultant fees		(8)	-
Grant Allocation		(41)	
Administration expenses			(7)
		(55)	(9)
Balance on deposit account on 31 December		81	76
6. Payables			
Amounts falling due within one year:		2021	2020
		€'000	€'000
Trade creditors		10,053	8,056
Other creditors		86	81
Frame Claim Bond	5.1	19,012	0
Accruals		32,815	25,997
Taxation creditors:			
- PAYE / PRSI		46	47
- PSWT		328	360
		62,340	34,541

6.1: This amount relates to the payment of the bond in place by BAM in accordance with Clause 13.2.12 (1) which was activated upon the initiation of court proceedings by BAM in relation to Claim 04, hereto referred to as the 'Frame Claim'. The NPHDB were contractually required to make payment on foot of this bond which resulted in the NPHDB submitting a claim to the HSE for the amount of  $\notin$ 19m which was duly processed and paid by the HSE. Upon receipt of the funds, the NPHDB made full payment in relation to the bond amount along with the payment of the VAT liability that was then due to the Revenue Commissioners in relation to this payment to the contractor.

The expense relating to this payment has been treated as a Prepayment rather than an Expense item as it is not a certified payment against the contract and so is not considered a legitimate project expense. In light of this, the amount relating to the bond is carried as a balance due to the HSE as in the event that this payment is not certified against the contract this amount will be repayable to the HSE.

7. Capital Account

7. Cupitul Tibooutio		
	2021	2020
	€'000	€'000
Opening balance	583,683	459,438
Capital expenditure	302,820	161,215
Balance	886,503	620,653
Transfer to: HSE	-	(34,946)
CHI	(49,282)	(2,024)
Closing Balance	837,221	583,683

#### 8. Capital Commitments

#### 8.1: Capital Commitments (excluding Lease Commitments):

At 31 December 2021, the Board had the following capital commitments:

	2021	2020
	€'000	€'000
Contracted for but not provided in the financial statements		
Within 1 year	308,998	277,278
Between 1 and 2 years	194,946	467,992
Between 3 and 5 years	23,842	18,689
Total (including VAT)	527,786	763,959

The year-on-year net changes of  $\notin$  236.2m reflects the Capital Commitments met in 2021, additional commitments made in 2021, and an estimate for future inflation allowable under the contract.

#### 8.2: Lease Commitments:

The NPHDB is located at Block A, Herberton, St. James's Walk, Rialto, Dublin 8 D08 HP97. The annual rental cost is  $\epsilon$ 254k, with the office lease expiring 24 June 2024. CHI sub-let offices at Herberton from the NPHDB at a charge of 50% of the annual rental cost.

	2021	2020
	€'000	€'000
Contracted for but not provided in the financial statements		
Within 1 year	254	254
Between 1 and 2 years	382	509
Between 3 and 5 years	<u> </u>	127
Total (including VAT)	636	890
8.3: Total Capital Commitments:		
	2021	2020
	€'000	€'000
Contracted for but not provided in the financial statements		
Within 1 year	309,252	277,532
Between 1 and 2 years	195,328	468,501
Between 3 and 5 years	23,842	18,816
Total (including VAT)	528,422	764,849

#### 9. Funding from the Health Service Executive

Advances and balances due from the Health Service Executive (HSE), which were all capital related, at the 31 December 2021 were:

	Note	2021 €'000	2020 €'000
Total capital grants notified by the HSE for the year		302,510	315,000
Opening balance due from HSE at 1 Jan Capital expenditure incurred in the year Less: Remittances from the HSE in the year Balance due from the HSE at 31 Dec	3	11,590 302,820 (302,510) 11,900	18,487 161,215 (168,112) 11,590
10. Related Party Disclosures			

Please refer to Note 2 for a breakdown of the remuneration and benefits paid to key management.

The NPHDB adopts procedures in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform covering the personal interests of Board members. In the normal course of business, the NPHDB may enter into contractual arrangements with entities in which the NPHDB Board members are employed or are otherwise interested.

In cases of potential conflict of interest, Board members do not receive Board documentation or otherwise participate in or attend discussions regarding these transactions. A register is maintained and available on request of all such instances.

#### List of all conflicts of interest disclosures

As per the Conflict of Interest Log, there were one conflicts of interest recorded in 2021.

#### 11. Spending Not Included in the Approved Budget

• •	-	2021	-			2020	
	Excl.	Irrecoverable	Total		Excl.	Irrecoverable	Total
	VAT	VAT	Cost		VAT	VAT	Cost
_	€'000	€'000	€'000		€'000	€'000	€'000
Inflation	15,807	2,134	17,941		1,293	175	1,468
Total =	15,807	2,134	17,941	•	1,293	175	1,468

The following spending was not included in the budget of  $\notin 1,433m$ :

The cumulative Inflation amount paid of  $\in 18.7$ m net of VAT (2019 -  $\in 1.6$ m) which is included in the spending was not included in the approved budget of  $\in 1,433$ m.

#### 12. Contingent Liabilities

The NPHDB is currently, and may be, from time to time, involved in a number of claims by the Contractor for adjustments (compensation and delay) pursuant to the provisions of the Contract for the construction and completion of the New Children's Hospital (the "Contract"). The Contract provides that such claims shall be considered and determined initially by the Employer's Representative. In the event of the Employer's Representative's Determination being disputed by a party, the dispute may be referred in accordance with the Dispute Resolution procedures set out in the Contract to the Project Board and, if required, thereafter to Conciliation. Claims not settled at Conciliation may potentially proceed to court proceedings as provided for in the Contract.

The Board has been notified, by the Contractor, of a large number of contractual claims for adjustment. The NPHDB has, in the vast majority of cases, accepted the Employer's Representative's Determinations and has made payments to the Contractor as required in accordance with the terms of the Contract. A number of the Employer's Representative's Determinations have been referred to Conciliation and to date a number of Recommendations have been made by the Standing Conciliator providing for adjustments pursuant to the Contract. The NPHDB has complied with all of its payment obligations as determined pursuant to the provisions of the Contract.

In addition, there are a small number of court actions in relation to claims both by the Employer and the Contractor. These proceedings have not concluded at this date.

The NPHDB disputes the validity of a large number of the Contractor's claims, and specifically, where the adjustment sought is greater than the amount, and/or extension of time, as determined by the Employer's Representative. In such circumstances it would not be appropriate to make an estimate of any potential liability arising from a decision ultimately to be made by a Court.

#### 13. Events after the reporting date

As at the reporting date, 31st December 2021, the Board had been notified, by the Contractor, of 1,372 contractual claims for adjustment. As at the date of these Financial Statements being approved, 11 of these claims have been settled. In the period following this reporting date and prior to the signing of these Financial Statements, up to 30th April 2023, an additional 1,134 claims have been notified by the Contractor. As at 30th April 2023, 458 claims had been withdrawn by the Contractor.

As at the reporting date, 31st December 2021, work completed for a value of  $\in 10,294,126$  had been certified and paid by the Board relating to contractual claims notified by the Contractor. In the period following this reporting date and prior to the signing of these Financial Statements, up to 30th April 2023, an additional  $\in 31,240,971$  has been certified and paid by the Board.

The NPHDB disputes the validity of a large number of the Contractor's claims, and specifically, where the adjustment sought is greater than the amount and/or extension of time, as determined by the ER. In such circumstances, it would not be appropriate to make an estimate of any liability arising from a decision, ultimately to be made by the High Court.

The following members have been appointed to the Board in the period following this reporting date and prior to the signing of these Financial Statements:

Mr. Alan Seabourne joined the Board on 12 July 2022. Mr. Alex White joined the Board on 12 July 2022. Mr. Derek Moran joined the Board on 12 July 2022.

#### 14. Approval of the financial statements

The financial statements were approved by the Board of the NPHDB on 14th December 2022.