



PAC-R-1187

Correspondence 3A.16

Meeting 108 -  
16/01/2014

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14<sup>th</sup> January 2014

Ms. Niamh Maguire,  
Committee Secretariat,  
Committee of Public Accounts,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2

Dear Ms. Maguire,

I refer to your letter dated the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2013 issued directly to the CRC regarding the Public Accounts Committee held on the 11<sup>th</sup> December and a request for information on a number of follow up issues that arose during the course of the meeting.

I attach for your information response received from the CRC to the issues raised.

On a general note, as the accounts being examined by the PAC relate to the HSE for 2012, any future correspondence from the PAC in relation to the CRC should issue to the HSE and we will coordinate with the CRC and reply to you.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours Sincerely,

**Ray Mitchell**  
**Assistant National Director**  
**Parliamentary & Regulatory Affairs**

## **Follow Up from the Public Accounts Committee Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> December 2013**

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- 1. An explanation for the reduction of CRC staff numbers from 297 to 281 between 2011 and 2012, whilst staff costs increased over the same period.**

**Response:**

This is being examined by the CRC and I hope to have a full response next week.

- 2. A detailed note on the CRC facility in Clondalkin to include :**
- a. The amount of grant funding from the HSE to facilitate the building of an adult facility, and the length of time the funds were drawn down by the CRC.**
  - b. A breakdown of how the funds were spent.**
  - c. The reason why the construction of the new adult facility ceased.**
  - d. A note on the services provided by the CRC for adults, in the Dublin area.**

**Response:**

Comments as per 1 above – currently being examined and a full report will be available next week.

- 3. A note on the intended procedures to be implemented for the appointment of a new CEO to the CRC.**

**Response:**

The CEO will be appointed through the Public Appointments Services (PAS). The Board will be appointed in accordance with the CRC's Articles of Association with the assistance of Board Match Ireland.

- 4. A copy of the CVs of CRC staff, in receipt of top up payments to their salaries, where possible**

**Response:**

On the basis of my preliminary examination of the CRC's payroll, staff are being paid in accordance with their agreed contracted salaries. I will be establishing if all salaries are in line with HSE norms as part of the 2014 Service Agreement process and if various public service pay reductions have been applied to all salaries.

- 5. A breakdown of the amount of money that will be recovered by the Friends of the CRC from the €500,000 that was invested in the company established to provide mobility equipment and a note the sale of this company to include the financial arrangements that were put in place.**

**Response:**

The Friends and Supporters of the CRC reimbursed the CRC in the amount of €0.550m in respect of funding provided by CRC to CRC Medical Devices. The CRC Medical Devices is wholly owned by the Friends and Supporters of the CRC.

- 6. A note on the appointment of Mr. Brian Conlan as CEO of the CRC to include the date the contract of employment was signed.**

**Response:**

The Board of CRC unanimously approved the recommendation of its Remuneration Sub Committee to appoint Mr. Conlan as CEO with effect from 1/07/2013 at its meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

- 7. A note on the pay arrangements for Brian Conlan and whether his salary was subject to abatement due to the receipt of a pension under the VHSS scheme from his previous position with the Mater Hospital.**

From review of the CRC files there appears to have been no correspondence between the Mater Hospital and CRC in relation to pension abatement.

However following investigation of the matter with the HSE's Pension Management Unit it has been confirmed that contact was made with the Pensions Management Unit by the Mater Hospital on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2013 seeking advice in respect of abatement arrangements of Mr. Conlon's pension. The Superannuation Officer in the Mater Hospital advised that Mr. Conlon commenced employment in the Central Remedial Clinic and they wished to apply the correct abatement, if applicable, to Mr. Conlon's pension with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013. Abatement figures were supplied as requested and the application of the pension abatement is a matter for the Mater Hospital.

- 8. A note on the legal agreement between the CRC and the Mater regarding the administration of the VHSS pension scheme. Copies of any correspondence between the CRC and the Department of Health on the matter to be included.**

**Response:**

I understand that the PAC has dealt with this matter to its satisfaction at its Hearing on 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2013.

