

would have welcomed a brief on the matter and she questioned how many beds were currently closed. Dr Roylance said that the number varied but there had been a reduction in the allocation of beds on each ward and the actual number depended upon nurse availability and patient need.

Mr Keefe noted that the DHA had been given additional money to reduce the backlog of the waiting list but if at the same time it was unable to maintain its throughput, the list must be continually rising. There was a shortfall in the budget that meant the District was unable to do as many treatments as it was capable of undertaking. Dr Roylance agreed but was unable to give a value to this figure since the District had the capacity to do as many treatments as it was funded for. He was talking to a number of people about those patients who presented themselves to a particular service but who could not go on the waiting list.

Mr Cottrell noted that the implementation of Project 2000 would have an on-going effect across many other services.

20/91 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 1991 were approved as a correct record.

21/91 GULF WAR (3/91)

Mrs Papworth questioned whether surgical help would be transferred to Weston if some of the local emergency work had to be transferred from the B.R.I. to provide space for Gulf War casualties. Dr Roylance said that this was unlikely although all help possible would be given.

22/91 GRANTS FOR THE SOCIAL CARE OF THE MENTALLY ILL (10/91)

Mr Keefe reported that the schedule of schemes proposed to take advantage of grants for the social care of the mentally ill as amended by the Joint Consultative Committee had not been accepted by the County Council. Part of the plan had been rejected but the grant application was to go ahead without the item that involved JCC planning. Members agreed that the Chairman should retain authorisation to approve any further amendments he felt were adequate in order to maintain a viable scheme for this part of the plan to go ahead for application to the Government.

23/91 WAITING LIST INITIATIVE, BRISTOL (12/91)

The Chairman reported that Prof. Stirrat had written saying that he had been completely reassured that the quality of the surgery involved in the waiting list initiative was satisfactory following his comments at the last meeting. Mr Wisheart reported that a thorough