



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte  
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7<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Deputy Pat Buckley TD  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 17381/19** To ask the Minister for Health the number of the 74 inpatient CAMHS beds fully operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Pat Buckley

Dear Deputy Buckley

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

There are currently 74 CAMHS inpatient beds across four inpatient units in Galway Cork and Dublin. However while we currently have 74 CAMHS beds operationally we never have access to all of these. Currently there are 55 young people in CAMHS inpatient beds nationally.

CAMHS inpatient services deliver tertiary level care and treatment to young people with severe and/or complex mental health disorders. Inpatient Services are required for children and young people with a range of mental health disorders (including depression, psychoses, eating disorders, severe anxiety disorders, emerging personality disorder) associated with significant impairment and / significant risk to themselves or others such that their needs cannot be safely and adequately met in the community by outpatient CAMHS teams. *Vision for Change recommends* 100 in-patient beds nationally for all aged 0-18 years, in five units of 20 beds each. The new Children's Hospital due to open in 2021 will have an additional 20 beds. There are also plans for an additional 10 CAMHS Forensic Beds in the New Forensic Hospital due to open in 2020 bringing the total number of inpatient beds for CAMHS to 104.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

**Building a Better Health Service**

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