



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
28 February 2019  
Health Service Executive

Health Service Executive  
Dublin Mid-Leinster  
Block B  
Civic Centre  
Main Street  
Bray  
Co. Wicklow

Deputy Éamon Ó Cuív  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Baile Átha Cliath & Lár Laighin  
Bloc B  
Lárionad Cathrach  
Príomhshráid  
Bré  
Co. Chill Mhantáin

Tel: Tel: (01) 274 4200

PQ 9548/19

*\* To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting to be admitted to the National Rehabilitation Hospital; the average waiting time for persons waiting for a bed; his plans to reduce these waiting times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Éamon Ó Cuív*

Dear Deputy Ó Cuív

Thank you for your recent correspondence. The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Representation. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the current position.

National Rehabilitation Hospital [NRH] has confirmed the following;

- **The number of persons waiting to be admitted to the National Rehabilitation Hospital as of 27.02.2019 – 259**
- **Average waiting time for each programme at the end of 2018**
  - Brain Injury Programme - 140 days
  - Spinal Cord System of Care - 77 days
  - Prosthetic, Orthotic, Limb Absence Rehabilitation (POLAR) programme - 38 days
  - Paediatric Family-Centred Programme - 136 days (please note that this figure was impacted in 2018 by service closure and would not be the usual average waiting time for the Paeds programme)
- **There are a number of measures in place to assist in reducing the waiting times for admission to the NRH, these are,**

**Ensuring that reported delayed discharges (in the NRH) receive full and timely consideration by the Community Sector in terms of enabling appropriate home supports**

**The Winter Plan 2018/2019 contemplates the opening of additional capacity (2 beds) at the NRH which will assist in a greater no of admissions in 2019 from the acute care sector**

**The New Hospital (120 beds) project is due for completion in late 2019, with formal commissioning to be completed by end of Feb 2020. This will see a significant enhancement in bed no's (additional 16 beds) in an environment where clients can be managed more effeciently in areas of risk such as infection control and behavioural challenges. This will ensure a better throughput for the Hospital within a modern environment conducive to quality patient care.**

I trust that this information is of assistance to you but should you require further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John O'Donovan", is written over a horizontal line.

*John O'Donovan*  
*Head of Social Care*