Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Special Delivery Unit

30th January 2019

Deputy Louise O'Reilly
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 2444/19

* To ask the Minister for Health the number of times full capacity protocol was invoked in each of the years 2011 to 2018, by hospital in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- Louise O'Reilly.

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

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.

Each Hospital Site and Group strive at all times to have the systems and processes in place to support the steady state within sites which is said to exist when demand and capacity for acute inpatient care, both current and predicted unscheduled and scheduled care is being managed such that there is timely access to emergency (unscheduled) and scheduled care.

In the event that this is not so at a particular time /day then the local escalation plan containing the steps in the National System Wide Escalation Framework is invoked. The National Escalation Framework consists of a tiered and incremental suite of actions to be adapted and implemented in hospitals with an Emergency Department and the wider local health economy as part of a multi provider system response; same was issued to the system in late 2015.

The full capacity protocol which is the last escalation step in the National Framework is deployed in each hospital depending on the capacity and demand within their respective Emergency Departments.

The Table below details the number of times the full capacity protocol (in accordance with the National Escalation Framework) was reported at each hospital for 2016, 2017 and 2018. We do not record the length of time each site remains at FCP on each occasion.

1

Hospital Group	Hospital	Year	No. of Reported Times FCP Deployed
Dublin Midlands Group	Naas General Hospital	2016	109
		2017	219
		2018	207
	Portlaoise	2016	96
		2017	167
		2018	167
	St. James Hospital	2016	12
		2017	40
		2018	7
	Tallaght University Hospital	2016	136
		2017	181
		2018	200
	Tullamore	2016	258
		2017	189
		2018	207
Ireland East Group	Mater	2016	19
		2018	3
	Mullingar	2016	96
		2017	116
		2018	108
	Our Lady's Hospital, Navan	2017	12
		2018	120
	St Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny	2016	188
		2017	239
		2018	178
	St. Vincent's University Hospital	2016	21
		2017	1
		2018	1
	Wexford General Hospital	2016	5
		2017	65
		2018	54
RCSI Hospital Group	Beaumont Hospital	2016	210
		2017	150
		2018	174
	Cavan General Hospital	2016	12
		2017	4
		2018	3
	Connolly Hospital	2016	72
		2017	68
		2018	10
	Our Lady of Lourdes, Drogheda	2016	169
		2017	75
		2018	122
Saolta University Health Care Group	Galway University Hospital	2016	207
		2017	298
		2018	265
	Letterkenny University Hospital	2016	103
		2017	242
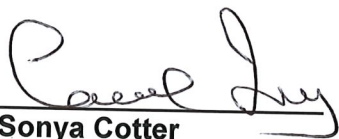
Group	Hospital	Year	Value
		2018	147
	Mayo University Hospital	2016	33
		2017	187
		2018	71
	Portiuncula University Hospital	2016	16
		2017	91
		2018	135
	Sligo University Hospital	2016	27
		2017	46
		2018	104
South South West Group	Cork University Hospital	2016	2
		2017	199
		2018	261
	Mercy University Hospital, Cork	2016	16
		2017	12
	South Tipperary General Hospital	2016	249
		2017	306
		2018	261
	University Hospital Kerry	2016	19
		2018	4
	University Hospital Waterford	2016	289
		2017	327
		2018	310
UL Hospitals Group	Limerick	2016	322
		2017	294
		2018	336

I trust this answers your question to your satisfaction.

Yours sincerely,

Sonya Cotter
Head of SDU
National Services