



**Head of Social Care**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**  
Health Service Executive  
Model Business Park  
Model Farm Road  
Cork Eircode: T12 HT02

**Oifig Cúraim Shóisialta**  
**Cúram Sláinte Pobail Corcaigh Ciarraí**  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Páirc Gnó Model  
Bóthar na Modh Feirme  
Corcaigh Eircode: T12 HT02

**T: 353 (0)21 4923854**

1<sup>st</sup> August 2019

Deputy Danny Healy Rae T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ 33889/19:**

**"To ask the Minister for Health when the unoccupied beds in Dingle Hospital will be opened up to patients; and if he will make a statement on the matter."**

Dear Deputy Healy Rae,

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 wish to advise that to open additional beds in West Kerry Community Hospital (Dingle) the following staffing compliment is required:

- West Kerry Community Hospital (Dingle) will require 4.8 WTE nurses and 3.0 WTE Health Care assistants

Recruitment for nurses is proving most difficult for this location. We have had several local campaigns over the past couple of years as well as engaging with a national online recruitment agency. We have only secured 3 nurses for Dingle, 2 of which have since been employed to replace retirements.

There is no current waiting list for these additional beds in this unit.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

**Gabrielle O'Keeffe**  
**Head of Social Care,**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**

