



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
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7th November 2019

Minister Brendan Griffin, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ 44190/19:

“To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the opening of additional beds at Kenmare Community Hospital; the timeframe for the process leading to and including the opening of the beds; the planned staffing measures; the number of beds to be opened; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Minister Griffin,

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.

There are currently 19 beds open at Kenmare Community Nursing Unit, with the potential to open up to a further 21 in the future.

While we planned to open a number of additional beds on a phased basis, we have unfortunately faced challenges in recruiting the extra nurses we need. Increasing capacity at Kenmare Community Nursing Unit remains a priority for us, and we continue to make intensive efforts to recruit. The most recent recruitment campaign was last month (September 2019). Every effort has been made to recruit the necessary staff, and we have run three recruitment campaigns in the last year alone. Additional beds cannot open until we recruit the necessary number of staff.

We understand the importance of Kenmare Community Nursing Unit to the local community, and excellent care provided by the staff there. We will continue to work to extend the services there.

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

