



Ms. Mary Lou McDonald, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

15th July 2020

PQ 14432/20: To ask the Minister for Health the status of the north east inner city initiative addiction unit and associated staff hires. - Mary Lou McDonald

Dear Deputy McDonald,

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.

The status of the North East Inner City (NEIC) initiative addiction unit to which you refer, is best described in four parts.

- 1: **Residential Stabilisation Unit** for service users from NEIC catchment area with referrals from HSE and Community Projects in the NEIC catchment area. This is operational since September 2019 and had ten beds fully functional. This did not close during Covid -19; however, numbers did reduce in order to comply with Public Health Guidelines. It now provides six beds as a result of social distancing.
- 2: **Addiction Case Management Team** is made up of five staff from Chrysalis Community Drug Project and they operate from City Clinic and Summerhill Inclusion Health Hub . These posts are an interim arrangement whilst HSE recruitment for full-time posts is realised. National Recruitment is at present processing these posts. This team is also managed by the HSE NEIC Operational Manager with six staff in total.
- 3: **Homeless Case Management Team** is made up of three staff from Coolmine Therapeutic Community and they operate from Summerhill Inclusion Health Hub. These posts are an interim arrangement whilst HSE recruitment for fulltime posts is realised. National Recruitment is at present processing these posts. This contract with Coolmine will cease in July 2020 and another agency will fill this brief until HSE posts are in place. This team is supported by a HSE keyworker, a HSE admin, with five staff in total.
- 4: **HSE Homeless Healthlink Team** are operating from Summerhill Inclusion Health Hub and is made up of **7.5 staff**, the team includes a Team Leader, Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, Social Worker, Social Work Team Leader(0.5wte) admin staff and two outreach workers.

HSE Community Health Organisation Dublin North City and County hope to have associated ten specified purpose contracts for project workers in post by end of Quarter 3, 2020.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Dónal Cassidy
General Manager
Social Inclusion/Addiction Services