



Alan Kelly TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

16th October 2020

PQ 27922/20

“To ask the Minister for Health the status of all Covid-19 community assessment hubs as of 25 September 2020; the opening times and number that visited each in April, May, June, July and August 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Alan Kelly”

Dear Deputy Kelly,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 27922/20), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Community Assessment Hubs (CAH) provide timely Community based acute clinical assessment for COVID-19 positive patients (presumptive and confirmed) in their own geographical area. The rationale for the establishment of CHOs was in order to minimise, any inappropriate utilisation of Acute Hospital capacity (attendance and admission avoidance) and the risk of community transmission of COVID-19.

At one point there were 29 operational CAHs and currently there are 8 operational CAHs. The redesign of the delivery model was guided by the following principles;

- Sufficient capacity to meet current demand
- Ability to rapidly scale up CAH capacity to meet any future surge in demand
- Locations of CAHs in areas with most demand

The location of the 8 operational CAHs is shown here;

| CHO | Name of Centre |
|-------|--------------------------------------|
| CHO 1 | Donegal (Letterkenny) |
| CHO 1 | Sligo (Ballytivnan) |
| CHO 4 | Cork (Cork City Gurrabraher) |
| CHO 6 | Wicklow (Glenside Road Wicklow) |
| CHO 7 | Dublin (Tallaght) |
| CHO 7 | Dublin (SafetyNet at Mater Hospital) |
| CHO 7 | Newbridge |
| CHO 9 | Dublin (DCU) |

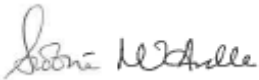
In addition to the 8 operational CAHs there are 4 CAHs on standby to open depending on demand. The 8 operational CAHs is sufficient to meet demand but this is reviewed on an ongoing basis.

The 8 operational CAHs are primarily operational on a weekday only basis. However individual CAHs are operational on weekends as necessary to meet demand.

See attached schedule showing the number of appointments scheduled in each CAH for each from April 2020 to August 2020.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely



Siobhán Mc Ardle

Head of Operations: Primary Care
Community Operations