



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
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St Loman's Hospital, Palmerstown Dublin 20
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29th October 2020,
Deputy Brendan Howlin,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ Ref: 30452/20

To ask the Minister for Health the location of each perinatal psychiatry service within the HSE in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Howlin,

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.

There are six hub sites for the Specialist Perinatal Mental Health programme. This includes three Dublin Maternity hospitals (Rotunda, National Maternity Hospital, and Coombe hospital) as well as Cork University Maternity Hospital, University Maternity Hospital Limerick and Galway University Hospital.

Please see table below which shows the current recruitment position of each staff member. While the posts in orange are in progress we have recently received confirmation to progress and recruit some of the posts in red.



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Each Hub site is linked with spoke sites where services are delivered by Liaison Psychiatry service and Mental Health Midwives or CMS.

Hub Site **National Maternity Hospital Holles Street Dublin.**

Spoke site Mullingar
Wexford
Kilkenny.

Hub Site **Coombe Women & Infant University Hospital Dublin.**

Spoke Site Portlaoise

Hub Site **Rotunda Hospital Dublin.**

Spoke Site Cavan
Drogheda.

Hub Site **Cork University Maternity Hospital.**



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Spoke Site South Tipperary
Kerry
Waterford.

Hub Site **University Maternity Hospital Limerick.**

Hub Site **Galway University Hospital.**

Spoke Site Letterkenny
Portlincula
Mayo
Sligo.

In addition to the above funding and posts, the National Women & Infants Health Programme (NWIHP), with which this Model of Care is being jointly delivered, provided funding for the Mental Health Midwives. This is for each Hub Hospital which did not currently have one, and also for each Spoke Hospital. There are 4 additional mental health midwives to be funded by NWIHP for the three Dublin maternity hospitals and CUMH.

Issues of accommodation for the three sites outside Dublin is currently being addressed with the Estate department in HSE.

The MOC set out three components of specialist perinatal mental health services, these are:

- Specialist mental health service to maternity units/hospitals
- Mental health midwife component
- Specialist inpatient mother and baby unit

Planning for Ireland's first **Mother and Baby Unit** is currently underway and a joint business case is being developed between Mental Health Services in HSE CHO6, St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin and the National Maternity Hospital. Given the documented adverse effects of separating mothers from their babies, the provision of a mother and baby unit as a national tertiary unit is vital and it is hoped that a submission to HSE National Estates Management will take place in the near future.

I hope this information will clarify the parliamentary question, please let me know if you would like any additional information.

Yours sincerely,



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Building a Better Health Service

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