

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse - Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta

An Sean Ionad Sláinte, Sráid an Bhiocáire, Tuaim,

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Rose Conway Walsh T.D., Dail Eireann, Leinster House, Dublin 2.

3rd November 2020.

PO 32100/20

'To ask the Minister for Health the number of beds in Belmullet hospital, County Mayo in use or available for use, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter'.

Dear Deputy Conway-Walsh,

I refer to PQ 32100/20 uploaded on the PAD System on 19th October 2020 and due for response on 5th November 2020 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Health concerning 'the number of beds in Belmullet hospital, County Mayo in use or available for use, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter'. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

The District Hospital has a bed capacity of 20 but now has a reduced capacity of 12 beds available. Admissions to the District Hospital must comply with the Infection Prevention and Control guidance issued for Short Stay beds as drafted by the Health Protection Surveillance Centre's Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Guidelines (Version 6.0 issued on 28th July 2020) for admissions to community hospitals.

Please note all measures that have been put in place in Belmullet are in order to adhere to IPC guidelines to maximise patient safety as a result of COVID-19.

I trust that this response has clarified the matter that you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely,

Siobhan O'Sullivan, General Manager,

Older People Services,

Community Healthcare West.