



Cúram Sláinte  
Phobail, Iarthar  
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,  
Maigheo agus Ros Comáin

Community  
Healthcare West  
serving Galway, Mayo  
and Roscommon

Ceannasaí na Seirbhísí Bunchúraim  
Cúram Sláinte Phobail, Iarthar, Ceanncheathrú N.  
Muire,  
Caisleán an Bharraigh, Co. Mhaigh Eo, F23 HP58.  
T: 094 9049064 / 094 9049069

28<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Mr. Alan Dillon T.D.,  
Constituency Office,  
New Antrim St,  
Gorteendrunagh,  
Castlebar,  
Co. Mayo,  
F23 VE00

Head of Primary Care Services  
Community Healthcare West, St. Mary's Headquarters,  
Castlebar, Co. Mayo, F23 HP58.  
Tel: 094 9049064 / 094 9049069

**PQ 19605/21**

**The new Community Chronic Disease Specialist hubs**

**To ask the Minister for Health the status of hubs (details supplied) for CHO2; the location of the hubs; the number and type of specialist multidisciplinary teams of clinicians to be recruited; when in 2021 persons will have access to the hubs and services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Dillon,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Community Healthcare West (CHW) has had approval to progress Phase 1 of the Enhanced Community Care Programme to develop integrated care teams for people with Chronic illness' and older persons. The strategy for the delivery of these teams is to support patient's in the community, with specialist integrated clinics held in Ambulatory Care Hubs. The teams will cover populations of 150,000 people or 3 Community Health Networks. It is planned to develop two Ambulatory Care hubs under Phase 1, these hubs will be in Ballinasloe and Galway City. Approval has not been received for posts under Phase 2, which would mean the development of an Ambulatory Care hub in Castlebar. The Ambulatory Care hubs will have a range of clinical, rehab, diagnostics and training facilities. Given the specialist nature of these facilities it will take a number of years to develop facilities to meet the specification required. CHW has taken a 2 pronged approach with a short term plan to meet immediate needs and a long term plan to meet the long term needs. Application for approval for short and long term measures have been submitted to HSE Estates and we await approval for same.

The Integrated Care Pathway Chronic Disease teams per hub will consist of 3 specialist teams focused on;

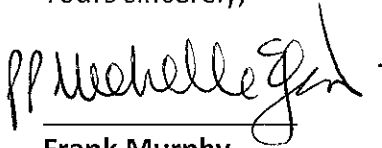
- Respiratory ( 9.5 WTE's)
- Cardiology (6.7 WTE's)
- Diabetes (12 WTE's)

The team will include an Operational lead and support staff. Recruitment is in progress at present with some staff commencing in Q2 2021, however it will be Q4 before the majority of staff come into place given the specialist nature of staffing requirement.

It is envisaged that the Operational lead will be in post by the end of July, with team based services commencing from that time, it will take some time for the full staff complement to be in place and for team based process and pathway to be put into place.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,



**Frank Murphy**  
**Head of Primary Care**  
**Community Healthcare West**