



23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021

Mr. Dessie Ellis TD  
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Dublin North City & County,  
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**PQ Ref 12275/21: To ask the Minister for Health the number of staff, their role and availability that are currently attached to the mental health services at James Connolly Memorial Hospital, Blanchardstown; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Ellis,

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.

Inpatient Acute General Adult Service: The mental health services in Connolly Hospital are a part of the CHO DNCC HSE Dublin North City Mental Health Service. The Department of Psychiatry is an approved centre and is a 47 bedded unit. The service provides inpatient mental health care for adult (i.e. >18 year of age) patients covering an area of all of Dublin 15 (population 109,894); Dublin 11 (population 38,908) and a portion of Dublin 7 (population 38,068). This covers a total population of 186,871 (census 2016).

Staffing levels in the Department are as follows:-

- 60 WTE Nursing
- 2WTE Occupational therapists
- 1WTE Occupational Therapy Assistant
- 1WTE Senior Psychologist
- 0.5WTE Basic grade Psychologist
- 4WTE Administration
- 2 WTE Health Care Assistants (Monday to Friday)


There are nine general adult community mental health teams providing inreach; two Rehabilitation Psychiatry teams and a Liaison Psychiatry Team. Each team is a consultant-led, multi-disciplinary team. The staff on these teams providing services on the campus of Connolly Hospital is as follows:

- 10 WTE Consultant Psychiatrists
- 20 WTE Non-Consultant Hospital Doctors
- 2 WTE Self Harm Nurses
- 9 WTE Social Workers

**Psychiatry of Old Age:** In addition to the above, there is also a Psychiatry of Old Age Service which provides a service to all of Dublin North City and covers a population of 367,215. This service has a Day Hospital (Hazel Day Hospital) and a specialist Dementia Care Unit (Sycamore) on the campus of Connolly Hospital. Sycamore is currently closed and will reopen after necessary refurbishments have been completed.

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

Yours sincerely,



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**Angela Walsh**  
**Head of Service Mental Health**  
**CHO Dublin North City & County**