

By email to [matt.carthy@oireachtas.ie](mailto:matt.carthy@oireachtas.ie)

31<sup>st</sup> March 2021

Mr. Matt Carthy, T.D,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re: Parliamentary Question 14051/21** *“To ask the Minister for Health the healthcare staff-to-patient ratio at Drogheda Hospital; the recommended healthcare staff-to-patient ratio for the hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”*

Dear Deputy Carthy,

The RCSI Hospital Group 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. Having reviewed the matter, the following outlines the position.

Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda was included in the initial pilot implementation of the Framework for Safe Nurse Staffing and Skill-Mix (2016). All wards are staffed according to this framework which is based on patient acuity and dependency levels. Please see link to framework: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/2d1198-framework-for-safe-nurse-staffing-and-skill-mix-in-general-and-speci/?referrer=http://www.health.gov.ie/blog/publications/framework-for-safe-nurse-staffing-and-skill-mix-in-general-and-specialist-medical-and-surgical-care-settings-in-ireland-2018/>

Enhanced care team model was implemented in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda in 2019 which outlines a new model of care for patients in acute hospitals who need dedicated one to one care or ‘enhanced care’. Please see link to enhanced care model report: <https://assets.gov.ie/19410/2a9b1d03495b4704bd2deac1faa9bab8.pdf>

We trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



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June Molloy  
Communications Manager  
RCSI Hospital Group