



Oifig an Cheannasaí Oibríochtaí & Feabhsúcháin Seirbhíse
Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta
Tel: 061 483245
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Office of the Assistant National Director - Operations
Services for Older People
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30 June 2021

Deputy David Cullinane, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this Department for response.

PQ 24549/21: To ask the Minister for Health the number of residential care short-term and long-term beds by area at the start of 2020 and 2021; the number estimated for year-end 2021, by location; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Within Older Persons Services, approximately 6,812 beds across 131 public Clinical Nursing Units were identified in January 2020. These are divided between Long Stay (Nursing Home Support Scheme) beds and Short Stay beds. Further breakdown of these beds by Community Healthcare Organisations is included in the table below.

| | Long Stay Beds | Short Stay Beds | Total Beds |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| CHO1 | 529 | 323 | 852 |
| CHO2 | 562 | 225 | 787 |
| CHO3 | 346 | 145 | 491 |
| CHO4 | 1014 | 281 | 1295 |
| CHO5 | 511 | 250 | 761 |
| CHO6 | 367 | 145 | 512 |
| CHO7 | 632 | 202 | 834 |
| CHO8 | 594 | 62 | 656 |
| CHO9 | 390 | 234 | 624 |
| Total Beds | 4945 | 1867 | 6812 |

Approximately 6,020 beds across 131 public Clinical Nursing Units were identified in January 2021. Further breakdown of these beds by Community Healthcare Organisations is included in the table below.



| | Long Stay Beds | Short Stay Beds | Total Beds |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| CHO 1 | 510 | 193 | 703 |
| CHO 2 | 593 | 101 | 694 |
| CHO 3 | 345 | 93 | 438 |
| CHO 4 | 943 | 206 | 1149 |
| CHO 5 | 468 | 180 | 648 |
| CHO 6 | 369 | 114 | 483 |
| CHO 7 | 599 | 131 | 730 |
| CHO 8 | 579 | 14 | 593 |
| CHO 9 | 360 | 222 | 582 |
| Total | 4766 | 1254 | 6020 |

As per NSP 2021, recognising the impact of COVID-19 and the requirement for HIQA regulatory compliance, the HSE and DoH will update and agree plans for the implementation of the Community Nursing Unit Programme 2016-2021 including the development of options to mitigate the potential loss due to COVID-19 / regulatory compliance of up to 500 public long stay beds. This is in the context of avoidance through a 'home first' pathway of the requirement for 237 users of long stay NHSS residential beds in 2021. The reduction by 237 of the number of NHSS users planned for 2021 takes account of both population growth and at the same time decreased demand, due to the increased investment in community rehabilitation beds and home care.

As referenced above, funding is provided for an additional 1,252 rehabilitation and short stay / intermediate care beds for Older Persons Services in 2021, bringing the total capacity of public short stay beds to just over 3,500. The balance of public / private provision will be maintained with a view to enhancing direct HSE provision nationally over time.

The breakdown of the target beds to be delivered by CHO is included below.

| | Public Short Stay Beds | Private Provision | Total |
|-------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| CHO1 | 80 | 10 | 90 |
| CHO2 | 104 | 54 | 158 |



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|-----------------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| CHO3 | 56 | 33 | 89 |
| CHO4 | 147 | 31 | 178 |
| CHO5 | 37 | 10 | 47 |
| CHO6 | 22 | 33 | 55 |
| CHO7 | 126 | 36 | 162 |
| CHO8 | 124 | 49 | 173 |
| CHO9 | 108 | 192 | 300 |
| National Total | 804 | 448 | 1,252 |

Further detail regarding the organisation's plan for service delivery with Older Person's residential care facilities can be found in the National Service Plan 2021, as per below.

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/serviceplans/national-service-plan-2021.pdf>

I hope this clarifies the position.

Yours Sincerely,

Sandra Tuohy,
Assistant National Director - Community Operations,
Services for Older People.