

15th November 2021

Deputy James Browne T.D., Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2 E: james.browne@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 54075/21 - Psychologist, WGH and SVUH

"To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the provision of a clinical psychologist to the diabetes multidisciplinary team in Wexford Hospital and St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Browne,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking an update regarding clinical psychologists in Wexford General Hospital and St Vincent's University Hospital, which has been referred to the Ireland East Hospital Group for direct response.

I have had this matter examined and am advised that diabetes patients in St Vincent's University Hospital may be referred to the Hospital Liaison Psychiatrist. The merits of a dedicated Clinical Psychologist to Diabetes are well recognised and will from part of the strategy for the service.

While in Wexford General Hospital psychological services are an important part of any Diabetes Multidisciplinary Team, there is currently no funded post for any such position in Wexford General Hospital. The Hospital would welcome an opportunity to have this service included in the development plan for Diabetes at the Hospital.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Paul Gallagher

Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery

