



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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Deputy Pádraig MacLochlainn
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

17th December 2021

PQ Ref 59010/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of community hospital beds in County Donegal available to patients on discharge from acute hospitals; if he plans to increase community bed capacity; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy MacLochlainn

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Currently, there are 132 short stay beds in Donegal community hospitals potentially available to patients on discharge from the acute hospital setting. These are made up as follows:

Palliative Care Beds	Respite Beds	Rehab-specific Beds	Convalescent Beds	Dementia Respite Beds	Assessment Beds	Total Beds
10	28	19	15	7	53	132

On completion of refurbishments and HIQA Registration, there will be an increase in beds in the following community hospitals:

- Dungloe 17 beds to be reintroduced
- Carndonagh 7 beds to be reintroduced
- St Joseph's 13 beds to be reintroduced
- Ramelton 16 beds to be reintroduced

A total of 18 short stay beds will be reintroduced on the reopening of Lifford Community Hospital.

There are also plans to increase overall bed capacity in Co Donegal, with 110 beds in the new community hospital in Letterkenny and a planned increase of 53 beds in the Ballyshannon area as a result of a further new build.

Please note there are 150 long term care beds also available within the Donegal Community Units which depending on circumstances can take some admissions directly from Acute Services.

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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Martin Collum". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Martin Collum
General Manager
Services for Older Persons
CHO 1.