



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte,
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin,
Baile Phámar, Baile Átha Cliath 20.
Tel: (01) 6207304 R: jim.ryan1@hse.ie

Head of Operations,
Mental Health Service, St Loman's Hospital,
Palmerstown, Dublin 20.
Tel: (01) 6207304 Email:
jim.ryan1@hse.ie

Deputy Mark Ward.
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

22nd February 2022

PQ Number: 1863/22

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of beds of the 30 purchased in relation to the €7.65 million to purchase additional capacity for mental health services in the private sector that will be used for persons with eating disorders; and if he will make a statement on the matter - Mark Ward

Dear Deputy Ward,

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.

In 2021, additional funding for COVID emergency bed purchase in Private hospitals and further funding for ongoing purchase of external beds/long term care was agreed. The overall objective of the additional Funding was to increase Acute Bed capacity, reduce Waiting times at ED and provide a more appropriate level of care for Service Users with a particular focus on Longer term care needs. An oversight group was established to progress this work. HSE Mental Health Operations undertook a review of Approved Centres' in our nine Community Healthcare Organisations and the Central Mental Hospital to identify individuals with a longer-term care needs. This oversight group completed engagements with six service providers: including St. Patrick Mental Health Services, St. John of God Hospital, NUA Healthcare, Highfield Health Services, Bloomfield Health Services and the Talbot Group.

As a result, a tendering process took place. This is now complete and Highfield Healthcare were awarded the tender for an additional 10 Specialist Rehabilitation Unit (SRU) beds.

Further information on SRU beds can be found at the following link

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/mental-health-services/rehabilitation-recovery-mental-health-services/>

Talbot Group were awarded the tender for Mental Health Intellectual Disability Beds (MHID) for an additional 5 beds.



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The remaining funding allocated in 2021 for the purchase of external beds has been used for additional Longer Stay beds, Eating Disorder beds and Specialist Care beds as Clinically indicated and spread across the various CHO's.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Ryan
Assistant National Director - Head of Operations
National Mental Health Services