



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Cúnta Náisiúnta
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Conarthaí Príomhchúraim
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
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Deputy John Lahart
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

25th August 2022

PQ 36235/22- To ask the Minister for Health the new and or expanded community health services being provided in each county since 27 June 2020, in tabular form; the new health capital projects in each county that have been completed; and if he will make a statement on the matter. – John Lahart

Dear Deputy Lahart,

I refer to your parliamentary questions referenced above with regard to the development of Community Specialist Teams (CST) for Older People and Chronic Disease which are being established as part of the implementation of the Enhanced Community Care Programme for Primary Care & community bases services.

In order to address the issue you raise in a comprehensive fashion, and to ensure clarity going forward, I will set out a summary of the overall model and then deal specifically with the detail of the CSTs nationally. The impact of the pandemic meant that the identification of these specific locations for the CSTs permanent accommodation in the local hubs has this been finalised recently.

Enhanced Community Care Programme

In line with *Sláintecare*, the Enhanced Community Care Programme (ECC) objective is to deliver increased levels of health care with service delivery reoriented towards general practice, primary care and community - based services. The focus is on implementing an end-to-end care pathway that will care for people at home and over time prevent referrals and admissions to acute hospitals where it is safe and appropriate to do so, and enable a “home first” approach.

The ECC Programme was allocated €240m for the establishment of 96 CHNs, 30 Community Specialist Teams for Older people, 30 Community Specialist Teams for Chronic Disease,



national coverage for community intervention teams and the development of a volunteer-type model in collaboration with Alone.

Community Healthcare Networks

Through the implementation of the ECC Programme we are establishing 96 Community Healthcare Networks (CHNs), providing the foundation and organisation structure through which integrated care is delivered locally at the appropriate level of complexity, with GPs, HSCPs, Nursing Leadership & staff, empowered at a local level to drive integrated care delivery and supporting egress in the community.

The 96 Networks, on average serving a population of 50,000, will implement a population need and stratification approach to service delivery and will improve integrated team working in primary care service, moving towards more integrated end- to-end care pathways, providing for more local decision making and involving communities in planning to map identified health needs in their local area. The number of CHNs per CHO range from 8-14.

Community Specialist Teams (Hubs)

The work that has been undertaken by the Integrated Care Programmes for Older People and Chronic Disease over recent years, has shown that improved outcomes can be achieved particularly for older people who are frail, and those with chronic disease, through a model of care that allows the specialist multidisciplinary team engage and interact with services at CHN level, in their diagnosis and on-going care.

With the support of the DoH and Sláintecare, these models are now being implemented at scale, by the HSE, with the establishment and full rollout of 30 Community Specialist Teams (CST) for Older People and 30 Community Specialist Teams (CST) for Chronic Disease to support CHNs and GPs to respond to the specialist needs of these cohorts of the population, bridging and linking the care pathways between acute and community services with a view to improving access to and egress from acute hospital services.

These CSTs will service a population on average of 150,000 equating on average to 3 CHNs. Ideally, the teams will be co-located together in 'hubs' located in or adjacent to Primary Care Centres reflecting a shift in focus away from the acute hospital towards general practice and a primary care & community-based service model. The services are fully aligned with the acute system with clinical governance being provided through the relevant model 4 or 3 hospitals, but with the services being delivered in the community setting.



Our newly developed CST teams will require appropriate accommodation and to ensure we provide for this we have established the ECC Infrastructure Workstream of the Programme. This Workstream, is aligned with the overarching ECC strategic objectives with funding allocated as part of the 2022 HSE National Service Plan and Capital Plan. The majority of capital projects will be delivered over the course of the next 3 – 5 years. Our focus on the year ahead is for the initial roll out of individual project sites and commencement of the detailed planning phase of immediate priority proposals. All capital projects under the ECC Programme will be fully aligned to HSE's Infrastructure Decarbonisation Strategy objectives and the Government Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021 and will be future proofed for quality of care to deliver the best level of care to the end service user.

While CSTs will be primarily accommodated in proposed ECC permanent solutions, they will also utilise the breadth of Primary Care Centres as they work across their respective Community Healthcare Networks. Appendix 1 (attached for ease) provides an overview of these long term arrangements. While these permanent accommodation solutions are being progressed, a number of interim solutions will also be provided locally in 2022/23 to provide for immediate accommodation needs for CSTs within the CHO. It is important to emphasise that the majority of these short term/interim solutions to support ECC accommodation will be available for long term health service usage once permanent ECC solutions are in place.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Crowley', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Geraldine Crowley,
Assistant National Director,
Enhanced Community Care Programme &
Primary Care Contracts**



Appendix 1 – ECC Permanent Proposals – 19th August 2022

CHO	Location Name	Facility Location	Brief Description
1	CST - Donegal	Letterkenny	CST co-located at community hospital, serving 4 CHNs (Inishowen, East Donegal, North Central Donegal, West Donegal)
1	CST – Cavan	Cavan Town	CST co-located and adjacent to acute hospital, serving 2 CHNs (Cavan, Monaghan)
1	Spoke - Monaghan	Monaghan Town	Spoke co-located at old ambulance base, serving 1 CHN (Monaghan)
1	CST - Sligo/Leitrim	Sligo Town	CST co-located and adjacent to acute hospital, serving 2 CHNs (Leitrim & West Cavan, Sligo, North Leitrim & Bundoran)
2	CST - Galway	Galway City	CST co-located at Knocknacarra PCC or alternative appropriate solution serving 3 CHNs (Central Galway & East Galway City, West Galway, West Galway City)
2	CST - East Galway, Tuam & Roscommon	Ballinasloe	CST co-located at proposed Ballinasloe PCC serving 3 CHNs (Tuam, Athenry & Loughrea, East Galway & South Roscommon, North Roscommon & North-East Galway)
2	Spoke - Roscommon	Roscommon town	Spoke co-located at Roscommon PCC serving 3 CHNs (as above)
2	CST - Mayo	Castlebar	CST co-located at extended Castlebar PCC serving 3 CHNs (East Mayo, North Mayo, West Mayo)
3	Two location CST –	Ennis	Co-location at Community Hospital Ennis



	Clare (Ennis) & North Tipperary (Nenagh/Thurles)		and Ennis PCC for 1 CST serving 2 CHNs (East Clare, West Clare)
		Nenagh and Thurles	2 sites at Community Hospital Thurles and Nenagh PCC for 1 CST serving 2 CHNs (East Limerick & Ballina, North Tipperary)
3	CST - Limerick	Limerick city	CST co-located at new building in community hospital co-located with PCC serving 4 CHNs (South Limerick, South Limerick City, West Limerick, North Limerick City)
4	CST - South. Cork City, South & West Cork	Ballincollig	CST co-located at a location in Ballincollig or alternative location serving 5 CHNs (Bandon, Carrigaline, Kinsale, South Cork City, South East Cork City, West Central Cork, West Cork)
4	Spoke - Bantry	Bantry	Spoke co-located serving 5 CHNs (as above) - location details tbc
4	CST - North City & Central Cork	Gurrenbraher	CST co-located on St. Mary's Campus adjacent to PCC serving 3 CHNs (Blarney & North Cork City, Central Cork, East Cork City)
4	CST - North & East Cork	Mallow	CST co-located at Mallow PCC serving 3 CHNs (East Central Cork, Northeast Cork, Northwest Cork)
4	CST - Kerry	Tralee	CST co-located with acute hospital and community headquarters in Rathass, Tralee serving 3 CHNs (North Kerry, West Kerry, South Kerry)
5	CST - Kilkenny &	Kilkenny town	CST co-located adjacent to Kilkenny Newpark PCC serving 3 CHNs (North



	Carlow		Kilkenny, Central Kilkenny & South Carlow, North Carlow)
5	CST - Waterford	Waterford town	CST at adjacent sites at St Otterans and St Pats Campus serving 2 CHNs (Waterford City, West Waterford & Tramore)
5	CST - South Tipperary	Clonmel	CST co-located at Clonmel PCC serving 2 CHNs (South Tipperary & North Waterford, Central Tipperary)
5	CST - Wexford	Enniscorthy	CST co-located at extended Enniscorthy PCC serving 4 CHNs (Central Wexford, North Wexford, Southeast Wexford, Southwest Wexford)
6	CST - Dublin South East	South Dublin City	CST co-located at new build ECC hub on Clonskeagh Campus serving 3 CHNs (Milltown, Churchtown & Dundrum, Stillorgan, Booterstown & Monkstown, Donnybrook, Ranelagh & Ringsend)
6	CST - South Dublin & Wicklow	South County Dublin / Wicklow	CST co-located at Wicklow Primary Care Centre, Wicklow serving 5 CHNs (Dun Laoghaire, Dalkey & Loughlinstown, Southeast Wicklow, Northeast Wicklow, Ballinteer, Stepside & Kilternan, Foxrock, Carrickmines & Shankill)
7	CST - Terenure	Terenure	CST co-located at Terenure PCC serving 3 CHNs (Rathmines, Terenure & Templeogue, Drimnagh, Crumlin & Harold's Cross, South Dublin Inner City)
7	CST - Cherry Orchard	Ballyfermot	CST co-located at new build serving 3 CHNs (Ballyfermot & Palmerstown, Lucan, Northeast Kildare)



7	CST - Tallaght	Tallaght	CST co-located at Tallaght Springfield PCC with facility at Clondalkin PCC Boot Road serving 4 CHNs (Rathfarnham, Knocklyon & Ballyboden, Tallaght & Firhouse, Newcastle, Citywest & Saggart, Clondalkin)
7	CST - Naas	Naas	CST co-located at new ECC / PCC hub at Naas with another alternative location serving 4 CHNs (East Kildare & Blessington, West & Central Kildare, South Kildare & West Wicklow, Northwest Kildare)
8	CST - Mullingar	Mullingar	CST co-located at Mullingar PCC serving 3 CHNs (East West Meath, Longford & Central Westmeath, West Westmeath & Northwest Offaly)
8	Two location CST – Portlaoise and Tullamore	Portlaoise	ICPCDM team, with outreach for ICPOP co-located at Portlaoise 3 CHNs (Offaly, South Laois, East Offaly & North Laois)
		Tullamore	ICPOP team, with outreach for ICPCDM co-located at Tullamore serving 3 CHNs listed above
8	CST - Drogheda	Drogheda	CST co-located at Drogheda PCC serving 2 CHNs (North Louth, South Louth & Bettystown)
8	CST – Navan/Trim	Navan/Trim	CST co-located at Navan/Trim serving 4 CHNs (Central Meath, North Meath & Ardee, Southwest Meath, East Meath)
9	CST - St. Mary's Phoenix Park / Ballymun	Ballymun	CST co-located at Ballymun Health Centre serving 4 CHNs (Cabra Area Network, North Inner City Area Network,



			Clontarf Area Network, Ballymun Area Network)
9	CST - Whitehall/Santry	Whitehall/Santry	CST co-located at Whitehall/Santry PCC serving 2 CHNs (Kilbarrack Area Network, Coolock Area Network)
9	CST - Balbriggan, Skerries & Lusk	Swords	CST co-located at Swords PCC serving 3 CHNs 3 CHNs (Swords Area Network, Balbriggan Area Network, Coastal Area Network)
9	CST - St. Mary's Phoenix Park / Corduff PCC	Corduff	CST co-located at extended Corduff PCC serving 3 CHNs serving 3 CHNs (Blakestown Area Network, Blanchardstown Area Network, Finglas Area Network)



Appendix 2 – Approved ECC Permanent Proposals – 19th August 2022

CHO	Location Name	Facility Location	Brief Description
1	Spoke - Monaghan	Monaghan Town	Spoke co-located at old ambulance base, serving 1 CHN (Monaghan)
2	CST - Galway	Galway City	CST co-located at Knocknacarra PCC or alternative appropriate solution serving 3 CHNs (Central Galway & East Galway City, West Galway, West Galway City)
2	CST - Mayo	Castlebar	CST co-located at extended Castlebar PCC serving 3 CHNs (East Mayo, North Mayo, West Mayo)
2	CST - North Tipperary	Nenagh	A site at Nenagh PCC for 1 CST serving 2 CHNs (East Limerick & Ballina, North Tipperary)
3	CST - Limerick	Limerick city	CST co-located at new building in community hospital co-located with PCC serving 4 CHNs (South Limerick, South Limerick City, West Limerick, North Limerick City)
4	CST - South. Cork City, South & West Cork	Ballincollig	CST co-located at a location in Ballincollig or alternative location serving 5 CHNs (Bandon, Carrigaline, Kinsale, South Cork City, South East Cork City, West Central Cork, West Cork)
4	CST - North City & Central Cork	Gurrenbraher	CST co-located on St. Mary's Campus adjacent to PCC serving 3 CHNs (Blarney & North Cork City, Central Cork, East Cork City)
5	Two location CST - Kilkenny & Carlow	Kilkenny town	CST co-located adjacent to Kilkenny Newpark PCC serving 3 CHNs (North Kilkenny, Central Kilkenny & South Carlow, North Carlow)
		Carlow	CST co-located at Shamrock Plaza serving 1 CHN



			(North Carlow)
5	CST - Waterford	Waterford town	CST at adjacent sites at St Otterans and St Pats Campus serving 2 CHNs (Waterford City, West Waterford & Tramore)
5	CST - Wexford	Enniscorthy	CST co-located at extended Enniscorthy PCC serving 4 CHNs (Central Wexford, North Wexford, Southeast Wexford, Southwest Wexford)
6	CST - South Dublin & Wicklow	South County Dublin / Wicklow	CST co-located at Wicklow Primary Care Centre, Wicklow serving 5 CHNs (Dun Laoghaire, Dalkey & Loughlinstown, Southeast Wicklow, Northeast Wicklow, Ballinteer, Stepside & Kilternan, Foxrock, Carrickmines & Shankill)
7	CST - Cherry Orchard	Ballyfermot	CST co-located at new build serving 3 CHNs (Ballyfermot & Palmerstown, Lucan, Northeast Kildare)
9	CST - St. Mary's Phoenix Park / Ballymun	Ballymun	CST co-located at Ballymun Health Centre serving 4 CHNs (Cabra Area Network, North Inner City Area Network, Clontarf Area Network, Ballymun Area Network)
9	CST - St. Mary's Phoenix Park / Corduff PCC	Corduff	CST co-located at extended Corduff PCC serving 3 CHNs serving 3 CHNs (Blakestown Area Network, Blanchardstown Area Network, Finglas Area Network)