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Deputy Mark Ward,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

22nd July 2022

PQ Number: 37491/22

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the status of the reopening of CAMHS inpatient beds in a centre (details supplied); his plans to get CAMHS beds up to full capacity; 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.

Further to my response to your Parliamentary Question 27034/22, the decision made by Senior Management in Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare in May 2022, to temporarily reduce the number of beds in Linn Dara Approved Centre was not made lightly and had arisen due to continuing difficulties to maintain safe staffing levels on the unit.

Extensive efforts have and will continue to be made at local, national and international levels to recruit nurses into the vacant posts. This matter is under constant review and it is expected that the reduction in beds will continue until September when Nursing Graduates become available. A bespoke recruitment campaign is already in place to maximize graduate employment.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Mc Cusker
General Manager
National Mental Health Services