



Ceann Seirbhísí Daoine Scothaosta

Limistéar Cúram Sláinte Pobail an
Oirdheiscirt | Leacain |
Bóthar Bhaile Átha Cliath | Cill Chainnigh |
R95 NV08

Head of Service Older Persons Tel: 056 7784140

South East Community Healthcare
Area | Lacken |
Dublin Road | Kilkenny |
R95 NV08

27th June 2022

Mr Michael Lowry T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

PQ 28865/22

To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 282 of 20 January 2022, when a full analysis of service demand need for long-stay beds and palliative care beds in Tipperary will be completed by the HSE; when the findings of this analysis will be made public; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 28866/22

To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 282 of 20th January 2022, if this analysis would contain an endorsement for the number of Level 2 palliative care beds required for St Anthony's Unit in Clonmel Co. Tipperary when the full analysis of service demand need for long stay beds and palliative care beds will be completed by the HSE: and if he will make a statement of the matter.

PQ 28867/22

To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 282 of 20 January 2022, if his attention has been drawn to the fact that the construction of the new St. Anthony's unit in Clonmel is due to start in Q3 of 2022; if additional palliative care beds are required for County Tipperary in the unit following the publication of the service demand need for long-stay beds and palliative care beds; if arrangements will be made to include these additional beds immediately while construction of the new St. Anthony's Unit in Clonmel is taking place; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 28868/22

To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 282 of 20 January 2022, if all level 2 palliative care beds currently provided in the new St. Anthony's Unit in Clonmel will have attached to each level 2 palliative care bedroom, associated family sleep amenities and access to basic kitchen facilities (example kettle, toaster, fridge, microwave); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Lowry

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

I have reviewed the matter and following composite reply is the current position.

Palliative Care services are developed in line with national policy, Slaintecare, the HSE's Palliative Care Development Framework and the Palliative Model of Care. HSE Palliative Care strategy



includes the development of specialist palliative care inpatient units with a view to ensuring individuals and families have access to inpatient hospice care within their region.

1. South East Palliative Care Centre (SEPCC) - Inpatient and Day Services

The South East Palliative Care Centre (SEPCC) Level 3 unit was constructed as part of the overall five story “Dunmore Wing” integrated project on the grounds of University Hospital Waterford. The SEPCC is to be the first in-patient and day service multi-disciplinary specialist palliative care unit for the South East region serving the counties of Carlow, Kilkenny, South Tipperary, Waterford and Wexford. The upper ground floor of the building features a centre for day services in palliative medicine.

When fully operational, there will also be 20 Level 3 inpatient bedrooms (with individual patio gardens) on the lower ground floor for clients requiring the expertise of a specialist palliative care multidisciplinary team. The inpatient unit is currently operating with 8 fully operational beds and it is planned that the remaining 10 beds will open on a phased basis.

The Centre is the hub for palliative care in the South East and is building on the existing Consultant led integrated model of care in place across acute hospitals and community healthcare. Staff based at the Centre are supporting the Community Specialist Palliative Care (CSPC) Teams and Primary Care Teams across counties Carlow, Kilkenny, South Tipperary, Waterford and Wexford in providing appropriate care pathways for palliative clients in their own home or in nursing homes or community nursing units.

For the past 30 years Community Specialist Palliative Care (CSPC) in SECH has been provided in partnership with the HSE by four Section 39 Organisations as follows:

- Waterford Hospice Movement based on the grounds of University Hospital Waterford
- South Tipperary Hospice Movement based in offices in Clonmel town.
- Carlow/Kilkenny Home Care Team based on the grounds of St. Luke’s Hospital, Kilkenny
- Wexford Hospice Homecare Ltd, based in Ely Hospital, Wexford

The process of the Transfer of Governance from the various respective Home Care Teams to the HSE is currently in progress for Wexford, Carlow/Kilkenny and South Tipperary. Waterford CSPC completed the transfer on 31/05/2021.

2. Level 2 bed provision - Services for Older People

The provision of Level 2 beds within Community Hospitals/Units within Services for Older People is to support the Home Care Team. The HSE confirms the following Level 2 palliative care beds currently provided in HSE Units in the South Tipperary area.

Unit/South Tipperary	Number of Level 2 Palliative Care Beds
St Anthony’s Unit Clonmel	2
St Theresa’s Hospital Clogheen	2
Cluain Arann Community Nursing Unit Tipperary	2
Total	6



HSE Estates have provided the following update in relation to the development of St. Anthony's Unit Clonmel. This will be part of an overall Public Private Partnership with an agreed design blueprint to deliver a total of seven Community Nursing Units across the country. Planning permission for all of the Community Nursing Units has been granted, and the preferred tenderer has been appointed.

At the time of the overall tender process, the 50 bed replacement Unit for St Anthony's was designated and designed to Long Stay Residential Unit specifications. As per these specifications, there are no requirements for individual family eating and sleeping facilities. However an overall family room will be available to all families. It is expected that the contract build will commence in Quarter 3, 2022.

Of the 50 bed St Anthony's Unit, I can confirm 2 beds will be allocated for palliative care based on service need and the availability of other Level 2 Palliative Care Beds in South Tipperary supported by the SEPCC development.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen McDaid', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Helen McDaid
Head of Service
South East Community Healthcare