



**Cúram Sláinte  
Phobail, Iarthar**  
ag freastal ar Ghaillimh,  
Maighéo agus Ros Comáin

**Community  
Healthcare West**  
serving Galway, Mayo  
and Roscommon

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24<sup>th</sup> October 2022

**Claire Kerrane, T.D.**  
**Leinster House**  
**Kildare Street**  
**Dublin 2**

PQ ref: PQ ref 49537/22

*\*To ask the Minister for Health the number of beds that are in the mental health unit at Roscommon County Hospital; if there is a waiting list; the extent of same; the average time spent by a person on the waiting list; the current staffing levels in the unit; and if he will make a statement on the matter\**

Dear Deputy Kerrane,

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;

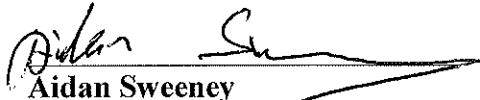
The Department of Psychiatry, Roscommon University Hospital is a 24 bedded approved centre as certified by the Mental Health Commission in accordance with the Mental Health Act 2001 to 2018. There is no official waiting list presently or previously maintained within the Department of Psychiatry, Roscommon University Hospital.

There have been a number of occasions where the Department of Psychiatry, Roscommon University Hospital has been functioning at its operational capacity. There have been significant demands for acute psychiatric inpatients beds across the Galway/Roscommon Mental Health Service for the past several months. The management of the Galway/Roscommon Mental Health Services has had its inaugural meeting with regards to a proposed new purpose built acute psychiatric admission unit on the campus of Roscommon University Hospital. This is to cater for the current and future Mental Health Care needs of the population of Roscommon and Galway. It is acknowledged at Oireachtas committees in recent times that there are ongoing pressures on acute psychiatric inpatient beds at a national level.

The staffing levels within the Dept. of Psychiatry, Roscommon University Hospital are currently sufficient to meet the needs for the patient population to whom we serve. As with all services staffing levels fluctuate on a regular basis this is based primarily on individuals moving within services, and availing of their statutory leave entitlements.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

  
**Aidan Sweeney**  
**A/Head of Mental Health Services**  
**Community Healthcare West**