



Ref: PQ/3248/23

14th February 2023

Deputy Sorca Clarke
Dáil Eireann
Dublin 2

Dear Deputy Clarke

I refer to your recent PQ which has been forwarded to me for attention. Firstly, please accept my apologies for the delay in issuing a response.

PQ 3248/23: To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE orthopaedic staff nurses working at both CHI Crumlin and Temple Street in the years 2020 to 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form; and if this number will be further increased.

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) Response

Please see set out here-under the information you require.

Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) orthopaedic staff nurses attached to CHI at Crumlin as of the 1st of January each year

Year	Number of Beds	Staff Allocation
2020	19*	28.64 Whole Time Equivalent (Staff Nurses, Clinical Nurse Manager 1, Clinical Nurse Manager 2, Clinical Nurse Education Facilitator) 10.71 Whole Time Equivalent Clinical Nurse Specialist's
2021	19 increased to 22*	28.64 Whole Time Equivalent (Staff Nurses, Clinical Nurse Manager 1, Clinical Nurse Manager 2, Clinical Nurse Education Facilitator) for 19 beds May 2021 due to surgical demand the number of beds on the ward increased to 22 beds. This was supported by an allocation of an additional 4.5 Staff Nurses. New Whole Time Equivalent staffing of 33.14. 10.71 Whole Time Equivalent Clinical Nurse Specialist's



<p>2022</p>	<p>22*</p>	<p>33.14 Whole Time Equivalent (Staff Nurses, Clinical Nurse Manager 1, Clinical Nurse Manager 2, Clinical Nurse Education Facilitator)</p> <p>10.71 WTE CNS's November 2022 - the allocation increased to 43.14 Whole Time Equivalent (additional 10 WTE Staff Nurses allocated to open 4 high observation beds, recruitment ongoing)</p> <p>10.71 Whole Time Equivalent Clinical Nurse Specialist's and 1 Plaster Technician in training</p> <p>New service developments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Whole Time Equivalent Clinical Nurse Manager 3 • 1 Whole Time Equivalent Candidate Advanced Nurse Practitioner in Spine
<p>2023</p>	<p>22 increasing to 26 in Q2 2023*</p>	<p>36.21 Whole Time Equivalent (Staff Nurses, Clinical Nurse Manager 1, Clinical Nurse Manager 2, Clinical Nurse Education Facilitator) in place as of January 1st 2023. There is ongoing recruitment of new graduate children's nurses and overseas recruitment to bring CHI at Crumlin to a total of 43.14 Whole Time Equivalent.</p> <p>10.9 Whole Time Equivalent Clinical Nurse Specialist's and 1 Plaster Technician in training</p> <p>1 Whole Time Equivalent Clinical Nurse Manager 3 and 1 Whole Time Equivalent Candidate Advanced Nurse Practitioner in Spinal disorders</p>

*Please note that the above beds are on St. Joseph's ward who predominantly look after patients with orthopaedic and Gastrointestinal complaints however are allocated to other cohorts of patients depending on need.

In late 2022, CHI at Crumlin were awarded the funding to build on 4 additional beds onto St. Joseph's ward to both increase bed capacity for orthopaedics and also to be set up as high observation beds. The idea of these beds being high observation is to allow CHI at Crumlin to take back more complex patients to the ward directly from theatre and reduce the requirement for Paediatric Intensive Care Beds.

With the creation of high observation beds comes a need for additional skilled nursing staff. In November 2022 the allocation of staff on St. Josephs ward increased by 10 whole time



Children's Health Ireland

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equivalents to a total of 43.14 nursing staff. Looking at current recruitment CHI at Crumlin should be up to 40 whole time equivalent nursing staff by May 2023 which will align with the completion of the construction work on the ward. The training element of these staff is high and we have increased the nursing education team on the ward to support this.

Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) orthopaedic staff nurses attached to CHI at Temple Street as of the 31st of January each year

2020*	2.8 Staff Nurse 2 Clinical Nurse Specialist 2 Plaster Technicians
2021*	2.8 Staff Nurse 2 Clinical Nurse Specialist 2 Plaster Technicians
2022*	2.8 Staff Nurse 2 Clinical Nurse Specialist 2 Plaster Technicians
2023*	1.5 Staff Nurse 2 Clinical Nurse Specialist 2 Plaster Technicians

*In addition, CHI nurses that are part of the overall ward complement are not specifically orthopaedic staff nurses but assist with orthopaedics.

Yours sincerely

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