



Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás,
Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare

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12/06/2023

Bernard J. Durkan TD
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
D02 XR20

Re: PQ 26983/23

“To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which it is expected to improve the mental health facilities available in CHO7 in respect of each category of patient; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Durkan,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question that you submitted to the Minister for Health, the Minister has requested that the HSE respond directly to you on this matter. I have examined the question raised and the following outlines the position.

HSE Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare Mental Health Service provides a community based model of care for children, adults and older adults. There are also three acute inpatient units (Approved Centre) for adults and one for children located within the CHO.

Community based services are delivered by community mental health teams and include outpatient, day hospital, day centre and peer led options.

Subspecialty services include Mental Health of Intellectual Disability, Perinatal Psychiatry, Rehabilitation & Recovery Psychiatry, Psychiatry of Homelessness, and Early Intervention in Psychosis, Eating Disorders, ADHD and Liaison Psychiatry. Aligned with national strategies the service also includes a lead in Mental Health Engagement, Resource Officers in Suicide Prevention, Mental Health Service Coordinator for Travellers, Service Improvement Leads, Peer Support Workers and Recovery Education.

Mental Health services continue to progress the rollout of new clinical programmes and maintain its focus on recruiting specialist staff and improving services for the community.



Developments

- A New Adult ADHD team is in recruitment and it is hoped will be operational in the coming months.
- The rollout of the Talking Therapies service in Kildare to support our patients. Recruitment has been completed and a premises in North Kildare is being prepared to see patients.
- The new Homeless team (Stepped model of care) recruitment has been finalised with the team to be operational in the coming months.
- Recruitment and retention of staff continues to be a significant challenge in mental health services. Ongoing shortages of permanent staff has led to an increased level of agency usage in order to ensure the ongoing provision of existing services. We are progressing all avenues to maintain our staffing compliment and recruit internationally to attract the best talent to deliver services to our community.
- National Children's Hospital Project: A new Approved Centre for CAMHS is located within the National Children's hospital. We have assigned a clinical lead to work with the project team in commissioning this new 20 bed facility in 2023/2024.
- Regulatory Compliance: remains a service priority. In particular addressing concerns the capital infrastructural deficits across the area. Both the Lakeview and St. James's Approved Centres are progressing for redevelopment under the HSE's Capital Plan 2021-2024 in order to address regulatory challenges with significant programmes of works identified and in progress for the Approved Centre Tallaght.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you require further details please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Brady".

Kevin Brady Head of Service, Mental Health

HSE Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare