



3rd May 2024

Noel Grealish TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ ref 13560/24

To ask the Minister for Health the overall staff levels at St. Anne's Community Nursing Home, Clifden and Clifden District Hospital, broken down by nursing staff, HCAs and other staff; the number of these staff on sick leave and for how long, broken down by nursing staff, HCAs and other staff; what steps are being taken to replace staff on long-term leave; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Grealish

I refer to PQ ref 13560/24 uploaded on the PAD System on the 22nd March, 2024 and due for a response on the 23rd April, 2024 regarding representation you have made to the Minister for Health regarding staffing levels in St. Anne's Community Nursing Unit and Clifden District Hospital. The HSE have been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the current position.

I wish to advise that the overall numbers are variable and change regularly due to recruitment/retirement and staff resignations. At present staff cross cover in multiple locations (Clifden District Hospital, St. Anne's CNU and Day Care Services).

Presently the total staff employed full and part-time are as follows:

- 14 nursing staff incl. management grades supported by additional agency staff to cover sick leave/annual leave/unfilled vacancies.
- 25 Health Care Attendants/Multi Task Attendants/Catering supported by additional agency staff to cover sick leave/annual leave/unfilled vacancies.
- 11 staff of all grades covering long term sick leave. A breakdown is not provided by grade as it would identify individual staff members. Existing staff work additional hours and agency staff when available cover their absences.

We have a bespoke and rolling recruitment campaign ongoing and we have interviewed and paneled for both nursing and non-nursing roles in Clifden DH and St. Anne's CNU. Derogations have been sought to fill post in Clifden DH and posts have been offered out to successful candidates on pre-existing nursing and health care assistant panels.

I trust this response has clarified the matter you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Mulligan', written in a cursive style.

Des Mulligan
Head of Service
Older Peoples Services
Community Healthcare West