



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta
Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte

Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin, Baile Phámar,
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Office of the
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Deputy David Cullinane,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

17th May 2024

PQ Numbers and Questions:

15848/24: To ask the Minister for Health the number of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service inpatient beds in HSE Dublin and Midlands, by location, in tabular form. -David Cullinane

15863/24: To ask the Minister for Health the number of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service inpatient beds in HSE West and North West, by location, in tabular form. -David Cullinane

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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.

CAMHS provide specialist mental health services to those aged up to 18 years, who have reached the threshold for a diagnosis of moderate to severe mental health disorder that require the input of a multi-disciplinary mental health teams. CAMHS Inpatient Units offer assessment and treatment to children and young persons with severe and often complex mental disorders.

There are four inpatient CAMHS units in Ireland. Eist Linn CAMHS inpatient unit which is situated in Cork, Linn Dara CAMHS inpatient unit which is situated in Dublin South West, Merlin Park CAMHS inpatient unit which is situated in Galway and St Vincent's CAMHS inpatient unit. Currently, there are 72 CAMHS in-patient beds registered with the Mental Health Commission, 51 of which are currently operational. As of 07th May 2024, 35 of these beds were occupied.

No. of Operational Beds – CAMHS as at 07/05/2024

Unit	Registered Beds	Current Operational Beds
Eist Linn	16	16
Linn Dara	24	13
Merlin Park	20	12
St Vincent's	12	10
Total	72	51

In terms of plans to expand inpatient bed capacity, a new 10 bedded forensic CAMHS unit has been completed within the NFMHS site in Portrane. This new facility, when operational will be the first of



its kind within the state and will offer 'state of the art' secure care facilities for young people up to the age of 18.

In addition, as part of the Children's Hospital Ireland (CHI) development, there will be a new 20 bedded CAMHS unit. This unit will be under the clinical and operational governance of HSE CAMHS (Linn Dara Team) and will provide 12 general CAMHS and 8 specialist eating disorder inpatient beds.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Hennessy".

Sarah Hennessy
General Manager
Child and Youth Mental Health Office