



Ceann Seirbhíse, Meabhairshláinte
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail
Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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

15th July 2024

PQ 25873/24

To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which it is expected to improve the mental health facilities available in CHO 7 for each category of patient over the next twelve months; 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 provide a Community based model of care for children, adults and older adults. There are also three acute in-patient 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.

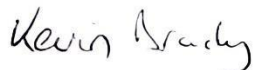
Subspecialty services include Mental Health of Intellectual Disability, Perinatal Psychiatry, Rehabilitation & Recovery Psychiatry, Psychiatry of Homelessness, and Early Intervention in Psychosis, Eating Disorders, ADHD and Liaison Psychiatry. Aligned with National strategies, the service also includes 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

- The New Adult ADHD team has been recruited, and it is hoped will be operational once the rollout pilot has been completed before the end of 2024.
- Approval has been given to progress the recruitment of 5 new posts for CHO 7 to create and begin the development of a specialist adult eating disorder service in 2024.
- The rollout of the Talking Therapies service in Kildare to support our patients. Recruitment has been completed and is based in a premises in North Kildare. This team is working with other mental health teams across the service delivering Training and interventions for patients.
- 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 where funded.
- National Children's Hospital Project: A new Approved Centre for CAMHS will be located within the National Children's hospital. This project is progressing and the clinical lead is working with the project team in commissioning this new 20 bed facility in 2025.
- 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. The new 50 bedded unit to replace the existing Lakeview approved centre is progressing through the design stage.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Kevin Brady,
Head of Service Mental Health,
HSE Dublin South, Kildare West Wicklow Community Healthcare