

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025

Deputy Padraig O'Sullivan,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 36401/25**

**"To ask the Minister for Health if a hospital (details supplied) in Cork will provide the full allocation of beds in its dementia unit to the public; and if she will make a statement on the matter".**

**Details supplied: Unit 1 is a dementia specific unit situated within the 117 acres of grounds at St Stephen's Hospital, Sarsfield's Court, Glanmire, Co Cork. It is situated approximately two kilometres from Glanmire village and seven kilometres from Cork city. It is a single storey detached building and is registered to accommodate 16 residents. Currently there is great demand for specialist high dependency beds in Cork for Alzheimer's, and Dementia. Unit 1, St Stephen's Hospital, which is registered to accommodate 16 residents, currently provided accommodation to 6 residents, with 10 vacant beds. Can you explain why the full allocation of beds are not available to the public.**

Dear Deputy O'Sullivan,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for the Minister for Health for a response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Unit 1 is a dementia specific unit under the governance of the Mental Health Services in HSE South West. Situated within the grounds at St Stephen's Hospital, Sarsfield's Court, Glanmire, Co Cork. It is a single-storey detached building, under the regulation of HIQA providing 24-hour residential care and registered to accommodate 16 residents.

The unit does admit patients and will continue admissions subject to meeting the criteria under the provisions of the current registration.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

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**Declan Cronin**  
**Acting Head of Service**  
**Mental Health Services**