



**CÚRAM SLÁINTE POBAIL
COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE**

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CAVAN DONEGAL LEITRIM MONAGHAN SLIGO

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24th September, 2025

Deputy Martin Kenny
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ ref 46538/25

"To ask the Minister for Health the status of services available at Sheil Hospital, Ballyshannon, County Donegal since it was reopened in February 2024; if all services will be listed; and the status of each."

Dear Deputy Kenny,

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 regarding the services that are currently available and that will be put in place at Ballyshannon Community Hospital (CH).

- 52 long-term beds, of which all 52 beds are operational.
- 20 short-stay beds, of which 10 beds are operational, with a further 10 beds to open on a phased basis as staff are recruited. The short-term unit facilitates discharges from both Sligo University Hospital and Letterkenny University Hospital for those patients that require further inpatient care in a step-down facility, providing convalescence, rehabilitation, respite and palliative care.
- 8-bed dementia-specific unit, of which no beds are operational at present. Staff recruitment campaign is ongoing.
- Day Hospital service are not operational at present. Ongoing recruitment process has been taking place in order to recruit the additional staff required to open the Day Hospital service. Once these additional staff are in place, the Day Hospital service will be restored at Ballyshannon CH.
- Ballyshannon CH provides a Meals on Wheels service to support older people and their families in the community.

The required staffing for the hospital have been sanctioned by both the Department of Health and National HSE. Recruitment continues to be a key priority for the service. However, challenges remain in filling certain posts, particularly in Nursing, Nurse Management, and Multi- Task Attendant roles. The service is actively prioritising resources and exploring all available avenues to progress recruitment.



I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Melissa Kelly A/General Manager,
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