



CÚRAM SLÁINTE POBAIL  
**CORCAIGH CIARRAÍ**  
**CORK KERRY**  
COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE

**Head of Service for Older Persons**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**  
Health Service Executive  
Caha House, Business & Technology Park  
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**Cúram Sláinte Pobail - Corcaigh & Ciarraí**  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Teach Caha, Párc Ghnó & Teicneolaíochta  
Bóthar na Modh Feirme, Corcaigh  
**Tel: 021 4923854**

12<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Deputy Brendan Griffin, T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 2064/44:**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the current number of beds open at West Kerry Community Hospital, Dingle, County Kerry; what the full staffing complement is in each category of employee; how this compares with January 2023 and 2022; what efforts are being made to recruit more staff; what success these efforts have reaped in 2022 and 2023; and if he will make a statement on the matter”.**

Dear Deputy Griffin,

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.

West Kerry Community Hospital (WKCH) provides WKCH provides 24- hour nursing care to both male and female residents whose dependencies range from low to maximum care needs. Long-term care, respite, convalescence and palliative care is provided. The hospital is currently registered to accommodate 46 residents and these beds are currently open and operational.

The below table sets out the January 2024 staffing breakdown at WKCH together with comparative data from 2023 and 2022:

<b>Staff Grade</b>	<b>WTE – Jan 2024</b>	<b>WTE – Jan 2023</b>	<b>WTE – Jan 2022</b>
Director of Nursing	1	1	0
Clinical Nurse Manager 2	1	1.88	2
Nursing Staff	15.72	16.23	12.7
HCA's / Support	21.44	21.85	22.8
Catering Staff	5.38	5.38	4.1


Cork Kerry Community Healthcare is committed to maintaining and increasing the staff complement at WKCH in order to augment service provision for the local community. Extensive efforts continue to recruit staff to WKCH against the background of the current HSE recruitment pause and the significant challenges that recruitment to community hospitals in rural locations can present. These efforts are to ensure that safe staffing levels are maintained at WKCH and to facilitate clear pathways for the transition of patients from the acute sector to the community. Most recently, interviews were held on the 4th and 5th of January 2024 for the West Kerry Community Hospital bespoke permanent Staff Nurse campaign and the recruitment process for successful candidates is progressing.



Cork Kerry Community Healthcare is committed to continuously reviewing our services in line with population health planning and Sláintecare principles and is committed to the ongoing development of modern services across the West Kerry region.

I trust this clarifies the position. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



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Jackie Daly  
Head of Service for Older People

