



**Head of Service for Older Persons
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**
Health Service Executive
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Cúram Sláinte Pobail - Corcaigh & Ciarraí
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25th July 2024

Deputy Duncan Smith, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 31765/24

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of WTE nurses working in Clonakilty Community Hospital in 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form".

Dear Deputy Smith,

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.

Clonakilty Community Hospital is registered to provide long term, respite, transitional, palliative and dementia care to residents. Pre HIQA standards, our community hospitals were designed to accommodate a larger number of beds with many rooms housing multiple occupants. In common with many of our community hospitals, Clonakilty Community Hospital has undergone significant change and reconfiguration recently to comply with specific regulatory compliance requirements and also to meet the changing needs of residents with regard to their complexity.

Challenges in the health sector are ongoing and well-documented nationally in relation to recruitment and retention of staff with some of our more geographically remote locations experiencing increased pressures. The number and skill mix of staff in our community hospitals has to be appropriate to meet the needs of the residents living in the unit. Recruitment efforts are ongoing to maintain and enhance the services available to the Clonakilty community while ensuring that the maximum number of people that can be safely accommodated in Clonakilty Community Hospital are being accommodated.

Whole Time Equivalent (WTEs) may fluctuate throughout a given year at many of our Community Hospitals due to retirements, resignations, statutory leave etc. The table below sets out the average WTE nurses per year working at Clonakilty Community Hospital for the years 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024:

2022	2023	2024 (Jun 2024)
48.95 WTE	44.05 WTE	48.85 WTE

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



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

Yours sincerely,



Jackie Daly
Head of Service for Older People