



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Cúnta Náisiúnta  
Clár Cúraim Pobail Feabhsaithe &  
Conarthaí Príomhchúraim  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte

Urlár 2, Páirc Ghnó Bhóthar na Modhfheirme,  
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Deputy Colm Brophy,  
Dáil Eireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

19<sup>th</sup> December, 2024

**PQ: 45903/24 - To ask the Minister for Health to provide a breakdown of the total staff recruited under the enhanced community care; the number to be provided; the expected delivery date; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Brophy,

I refer to your parliamentary question, which was passed to the HSE for response.

In line with Sláintecare, the Enhanced Community Care Programme's (ECC) objective is to deliver increased levels of health care with service delivery reoriented towards general practice, primary care and community-based services. The focus is on implementing an end-to-end care pathway that will care for people at home and over time prevent referrals and admissions to acute hospitals where it is safe and appropriate to do so, and enable a "home first" approach.

The ECC Programme (a multiyear investment programme) with an indicative allocation of 3,500 WTE and €240m for the establishment of 96 CHNs, 30 Community Specialist Teams for Older people, 30 Community Specialist Teams for Chronic Disease, national coverage for Community Intervention Teams and the development of a volunteer-type model in collaboration with Alone.

To date, significant progress has been made, with the establishment of:

- All 96 Community Healthcare Networks
- 27 Community Specialist Teams for Older People
- 26 Community Specialist Teams for Chronic Disease
- All 21 CITs
- Significantly improved access to diagnostic services.

Alongside this broader implementation, almost 2,800 staff have been on-boarded as detailed below:

Initiative	On boarded WTE
Community Healthcare Networks	1,434
Integrated Care Programme for Older People (ICPOP)	405



Integrated Care Programme Chronic Disease (ICPCD)	753
Community Intervention Teams	45
Health & Wellbeing	125
ECC Supports	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,793</b>

This leaves approximately 730 WTE to complete the Programme which will have to be considered in the context of future estimates processes.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Crowley', written over a horizontal line.

**Geraldine Crowley,**  
**Assistant National Director,**  
**Enhanced Community Care Programme**  
**& Primary Care Contracts**