

Ceann Seirbhíse, Meabhairshláinte Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin – Cúram Sláinte Pobail Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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PQ 46576/24

To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the CAMHS unit in the new national children's hospital; the size and capacity of the unit; the number and type of staff to be allocated to the unit; the location of the unit within the hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy,

I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The development of the New Children's Hospital (NCH), co-located on the St James' Hospital site, represents a significant landmark project, a HSE and Government priority project, a project aligned to several Healthcare strategies, policy initiatives, service reforms and patient needs.

As part of the New Children's Hospital, there will be a new 20 bed capacity Child and Young Person Mental Health (CYPMH) in-patient unit, to be staffed and delivered by HSE Mental Health Services within the hospital. This aligns with National Policy (Vision for Change, Model of Care Paediatrics) and is a key Government, Department of Health and HSE project.

The 20 bedded unit will function as two distinct pods primarily catering for Acute/Emergency and Eating Disorder presentations, operating as a member of a National network of such units located in Dublin, Galway, and Cork. The unit will have a regional and national remit for the treatment of the most intensive presentations in line with the CAMHS Operational Guideline. Each pod will be resourced by a Multi-disciplinary Team (Consultant Psychiatrists, NCHD's, Nursing, HSCP, Admin etc.), in line with regulation (Mental Health Act, 2001) and International best practice.

The staffing plan for the commissioning and operationalisation of the Mental Health Unit has been submitted for consideration this includes the following posts, a 105 headcount (This figure includes the 7 posts required for commissioning). 90.5 WTE directly employed via the HSE and 14.5 employed by CHI on behalf of HSE (i.e. Pharmacist, Catering, Clerical, MTA and 0.5 Pharmacy Tech).

In addition, it is estimated that additional headcount will be required through Service Level Agreements with CHI to support full occupancy, Clinical needs and Regulatory requirements of the Mental Health Unit at NCH (2.6 WTE or funding equivalent estimated [i.e. Physio, Paediatrician, Phlebotomy etc.]).

The Child and Young Person Mental Health Unit is located on the first floor, in a central location from the concourse in the North Fingers of the New Children's Hospital.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Brachy

Mr. Kevin Brady, Head of Service Mental Health, HSE Dublin South, Kildare West Wicklow