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Deputy Mark Ward
Aras Rulach,
Neilstown Road,
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Dublin 22

07/02/2023

Re: PQ REF 7039/23 "To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the proposed pilot programme for dual diagnosis of mental health and substance addiction, in CHO3; if recruitment is complete; when this will be fully operational; and if he will make a statement on the matter".

Dear Deputy Ward

I can confirm that a total of 13 posts have been approved to staff the Mid-West Mental Health Service Dual Diagnosis Programme. The Mid West Community Healthcare Mental Health Service commenced the recruitment process for these 13 posts in Mid-2022.

As of the 24th of February 2023, the recruitment status for the Dual Diagnosis Clinical Programme in the Mid-West CHO is as follows:

- 5 posts are fully recruited. These staff are in the process of taking up posts in the coming weeks
- 8 posts are progressing through recruitment process. Some of these posts are at an advanced stage of recruitment, including the Consultant's post.

The Mid West Community Healthcare Dual Diagnosis Clinical Programme will be based in Inis Gile in Parteen, pending the completion of works in this building. Mid-West Community Healthcare Estates commissioned an Engineer's Report on Inis Gile in December 2022. This report will outline the schedule of works required and the anticipated timeframe for the completion of this schedule of work.

In the interim period, the Mid West Community Healthcare Dual Diagnosis Team is being accommodated in a HSE campus in Limerick, which will enable the Dual Diagnosis Clinical Programme to commence the planning & provision of clinical services once the Consultant and other key staff are in post.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nuala Kelly", is written over a horizontal line.

Nuala Kelly
Head of Service
Mental Health Services
Mid West Community Healthcare