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29th April, 2019

Mr. Michael Moynihan, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 17872/19

“To ask the Minister for Health his plans to establish a primary medical centre in Millstreet, County Cork in the future; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Moynihan,

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.

As outlined in a number of policy documents (most recently the Sláintecare Implementation Strategy), it is Government policy to transfer activity currently taking place in the acute setting to a more appropriate setting in Primary Care. The development of a primary care centre infrastructure to support such a transfer of activity is essential. The HSE's commitment to the development of Primary Care Centres across the country is outlined in its Capital Development Plan. These centres aim to be a one stop shop providing a range of primary care team services such as GP's, Community Nursing, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Speech Therapists, Dieticians, Counsellors and in some cases dental and mental health services. They are primarily developed as public private partnership builds or as long term operational leases. All applications to progress any of these arrangements require the approval of the HSE's national property committee. The application process for such approval requires Cork Kerry Community Healthcare to identify the need for the development of such a facility in line with population health needs and the areas proximity to existing or planned primary care centres.

The HSE Estates is planning to formally advertise for expressions of interest from interested parties to develop primary care centres in a number of locations throughout Cork and Kerry including Millstreet. The development of all primary care centres is subject to GP commitment and completion of the build to the HSE specification.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Teresa O' Donovan
Head of Service - Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare