

30th May 2019

Mr. John Brassil, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann
Dublin 2

PQ ref 21238/19

“To ask the Minister for Health the status of the opening of a facility at a location (details supplied); when the facility will be available for use by patients; the purpose for which the facility is currently being used; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Details supplied: An apartment on the grounds of St Finbarr's Hospital, Douglas Road, Cork - Building was completed approximately 8 months ago. The apartment which is adjacent to St Catherine's Ward is intended as a step down facility for patients of the hospital's mental health services but as of yet remains closed for this use.”

Dear Deputy Brassil,

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.

This unit is part of the St Catherine's Approved Centre which is registered with and regulated by the Mental Health Commission. When open, it will form part of the registered bed compliment of this unit and, as this planned unit is the first such unit to be developed of this nature in the region, it is of significant importance that the processes around same are robust and safe to provide the best in terms of resident developmental outcomes.

I can confirm the building works are complete and the facility is now in the equipping and commissioning stage. Complete occupancy of the unit is anticipated within Q3 this year, following completion of the equipping and commission stage to include standard operating procedures within a recovery focused model.

I trust this clarifies the query raised.

Kind regards,



Mr Kevin Morrison
General Manager
Mental Health Services
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare