



Cúram Sláinte
Phobail, Iarthar
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,
Maighéa agus Ros Comáin

Community
Healthcare West
serving Galway, Mayo
and Roscommon

Ceannasaí um Chúram Sláinte

An Sean Ionad Sláinte, Sráid an Bhiocáire, Tuaim, Co. na Gaillimhe

T: 093 37933 / 091 775923 R: social.carecho2@hse.ie

Head of Social Care

Old Health Centre, Vicar St., Tuam, Co. Galway.

Tel: 093 37933 / 091 775923 Email: social.carecho2@hse.ie

(093) 37951

Mary Lou McDonald T.D.,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

22nd November 2019.

PQ 48016/19

'To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide the capital funding required to complete the upgrades needed to maintain services at a resort (the Cuisle Accessible Respite Resort, Roscommon)'.

Dear Deputy McDonald,

I refer to PQ 48016/19 uploaded on the PAD System on 19th November 2019 and due for response on 29th November 2019 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Health concerning 'if he will provide the capital funding required to complete the upgrades needed to maintain services at a resort (the Cuisle Accessible Respite Resort, Roscommon)'. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

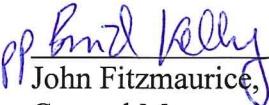
The Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) provides valuable supports and services on behalf of the HSE for people with disabilities. The IWA also operates respite breaks from its 'commercial holiday centre', at Cuisle, Donamon, Co. Roscommon. The HSE is aware of plans on the part of the IWA to improve standards and create choice in terms of access to 'away holiday breaks' or 'respite options' to enable people with physical disabilities to take a holiday with the specialist support of Irish Wheelchair Association's staff. In this regard, the IWA will be transitioning their current holiday/respite model located at Cuisle, Donamon in order to provide a wider range of choice to people with disabilities seeking accessible respite/ holiday breaks-away experiences as part of its reform programme.

The move to the new holiday service means that the Cuisle buildings will not open in 2020. It is equally important to reflect that IWA does not own the existing facility and that the lease arrangement in place will expire in 2026. Additionally, it is the case that the existing Cuisle facility requires very significant new capital investment in order to undertake major upgrade works. From a value for money perspective, this does not ultimately make sense given the facility is no longer fit for purpose and ultimately does not reflect the choice and preference of people with disabilities who want to have access to holiday respite via standard hotel settings with the necessary support.

From a HSE perspective it is of critical importance that supports are provided to a high standard and are accessible in terms of meeting the needs of people with disabilities. The HSE is assured of service continuity provided by IWA as part of its planned and funded provision. In addition it should be noted that HSE Community Healthcare West can only provide funding and supports for services within its allocated resources and budget.

I trust that this response has clarified the matter that you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely,



John Fitzmaurice,
General Manager,
Community Healthcare West.