



Cúram Sláinte
Phobail, Iarthar
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,
Maigheo 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

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Catherine Connolly T.D.
Dail Eireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

23rd October 2019.

PO 41181/19

‘To ask the Minister for Health the steps being taken to address the recurrent nature of non-compliance with regulations impacting on the quality and safety of care for residents including cleaning, decontamination, infection control, nursing documentation, access to allied health care, risk management, residents rights and water quality at Merlin Park Hospital units 5 and 6 as identified by HIQA in recent reports; and if he will make a statement on the matter’.

Dear Deputy Connolly,

I refer to PQ 41181/19 uploaded on the PAD System on 9th October 2019, addressed to the Minister for Health and due for response on 24th October 2019 concerning ‘the steps being taken to address the recurrent nature of non-compliance with regulations impacting on the quality and safety of care for residents including cleaning, decontamination, infection control, nursing documentation, access to allied health care, risk management, residents rights and water quality at Merlin Park Hospital units 5 and 6 as identified by HIQA in recent reports; and if he will make a statement on the matter’. The HSE has been requested to respond to you directly regarding this matter. The following response outlines the current position.

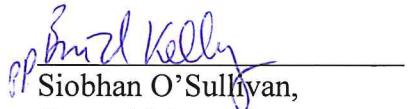
There are both immediate and long term steps being undertaken to address ‘the recurrent nature of non-compliance with regulations impacting on the quality and safety of care for residents including cleaning, decontamination, infection control, nursing documentation, access to allied health care, risk management, residents rights and water quality’ at Units 5 and 6 Merlin Park Hospital.

In relation to the immediate steps being undertaken to address the recurrent nature of HIQA non-compliance with regulations at Units 5 and 6 Merlin Park Hospital please be advised that an Action Plan is in place and includes the following initiatives (1) Structured support for local management and staff on regulatory compliance within Units 5 and 6; (2) New governance arrangements have been put in place; (3) Staff and Union engagement is on-going with; (4) On-site senior management oversight within Units 5 and 6.

In the long term please be advised that a new Community Nursing Unit is to be built through Public Private Partnership and will replace the current units. This proposed new unit is currently at the design stage with HSE Community Healthcare West due to apply for Planning Permission shortly for the construction of this new build on the grounds of the Merlin Park Campus.

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

Yours sincerely,


Siobhan O'Sullivan,
General Manager,
Social Care Division,
Community Healthcare West.