



PRÍOMHOIFIGEACH ECSP CEANTAR 8
COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE ORGANISATION 8

Príomhoifigeach CHO Ceantar 8
Oifig an Cheantair
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Sráid Hale
Baile Átha Fhirdhia
Contae Lú

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t: 041 6871500

17th December 2020

Deputy Ged Nash
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Re: PQ – 43670/20 – To ask the Minister for Health if he will clarify the future of Sruthan House, Dundalk, County Louth; and if he will make a statement on the matter. – Ged Nash

Dear Deputy Nash,

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. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

HSE Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation (MLM CHO) Disability Services can confirm that Sruthán House is closed for respite due to non-compliance with Public Health Guidance and HIQA Infection Prevention and Control Standards related to the physical size and layout of the building environment.

Given the risks to families and disability respite service users, there has been ongoing engagement by the HSE MLM CHO Louth Disability Services with the thirty-five families since March 2020. In Quarter 3 and 4 of 2020 in line with Government of Ireland Roadmap, the Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA) provided a disability respite outreach service to some families. Respite in an alternative environment was also offered to families.

Cognisant of essential requirement for disability respite service and given the ongoing Living with Covid 19 in Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 of 2021, HSE MLM CHO Disability Services are working on sourcing alternative disability respite services and outreach respite services for the thirty-five service users.

HSE MLM CHO continues to work towards resuming disability respite service provision at this time in line with Public Health Guidance in order to ensure the safety of service users, families and staff.

I trust the above is in order. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

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Yours sincerely,

Sarah McBride
Chief Officer
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation