

Mr Duncan Smith, TD

Dáil Éireann

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Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County

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29th June 2020

PQ 11002/20: To ask the Minister for Health his plans to further resource the primary care centre in Balbriggan, County Dublin to cope with a potential second wave of Covid-19; the status of the plans for the centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter. Duncan Smith

Dear Deputy Smith,

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 the following outlines the position.

The Covid-19 pandemic is an unprecedented global issue which saw the HSE facing many challenges. The priority for the HSE during this time was ensuring direct care of Covid-19 patients, whilst also attempting to contain and limit the spread of the virus. The HSE managed to maintain some services throughout however other services were disrupted in line with Public Health guidelines for the safety and welfare of both service users and staff. The HSE is committed to restoring all services whilst adapting to new working procedures in line with Public Health guidelines whilst Covid-19 remains present in the community.

All healthcare services and facilities, including Balbriggan Primary Care Centre, will continue to follow the Public Service guidelines during the Covid-19 pandemic. These guidelines will also dictate the necessary steps and phases should a second wave of Covid-19 occur in the Dublin North City and County area.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Carberry

A/General Manager