



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

PRÍOMHOIFIGEACH ECSP CEANTAR 8
COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE ORGANISATION 8

Príomhoifigeach ECSP Ceantar 8
Oifig an Cheantair
Bóthar an Ardáin
An Tulach Mhór
Co Uíbh Fhailí

t: 057 93 59787
f: 057 93 15855
✉: CHO8@hse.ie

Chief Officer CHO Area 8
HSE Area Office,
Arden Road
Tullamore
Co. Offaly

t: 057 93 59787
f: 057 93 15855
✉: CHO8@hse.ie

5th June 2020

Deputy Fergus O'Dowd
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Re: PQ – 8445/20 – To ask the Minister for Health the status of the proposed Dundalk Primary Care Centre; if a site has been secured; if so, the full list of services that will be provided on-site; the reason for delays; and if he will make a statement on the matter. – Fergus O'Dowd

Dear Deputy O'Dowd,

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.

The HSE has identified a preferred provider for the provision of a Primary Care facility at the Carrolls site, Dundalk to include Mental Health Services in Dundalk. A letter of Intent had been issued to the successful applicant. It had been the intention that a planning application would be submitted by Q4 2018 and with works commencing in 2019 (subject to planning) with an expected opening early in 2020.

However, Disability Services advocated to be included in the Primary Care Centre to meet service needs. This necessitated a review of the overall project. While this resulted in a delay, we believe it is the correct strategic move for the long term plans for care delivery in Dundalk.

The new updated proposal will require additional approval from the HSE Property Review Group (PRG) – i.e. the additional space that is now considered required to accommodate the extent of services now planned and detailed below. The PRG submission is currently being prepared by the service and is expected to be lodged in the coming weeks.

Primary Care - the centre will be accommodating the four Primary Care Teams which provide services for Dundalk incorporating Public Health Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Speech Language Therapy, Psychology, Podiatry and Dietetics.

Mental Health

- 2 x General Adult Psychiatric Teams - Currently based at Ladywell Centre, Dundalk
- 1 x Day Hospital - Currently a Day Centre and based at Ladywell Centre, Dundalk.
- Assertive Outreach team - Currently based at Ladywell Centre, Dundalk.
- 1 x Psychiatry of Later Life Team - Currently based at St. Brigids Hospital, Ardee.


Disability Services – Currently accommodated in Mounthamilton House and Blackthorn Business Park.

- 0-18 Years North Louth Children's team including new Network Team Manager (30 staff)
- 18 plus years Adult teams ID and Physical and Sensory (20 staff)
- Administrative staff. (7 staff)
- Assistant Director of Nursing
- Occupational Guidance officer
- Respite Coordinator

The HSE National Property Review Group (PRG) has not been in a position to meet due to COVID restrictions. However, we hope to obtain planning permission later this year and to commence the project in 2021 with building size of 61,828 ftsq to accommodate all services.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Pat Bennett
Chief Officer
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation