



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

St Canice's Hospital
South East Community Healthcare
Lacken,
Dublin Road
Kilkenny

Telephone 353 56 7784100

15th October 2020

Ms. Jennifer Murnane O'Connor TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin

PQ 28273/20

To ask the Minister for Health when a service Involvement Centre and skill base at St Dymphna's Hospital, County Carlow will reopen; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murnane O'Connor,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

The Involvement Centre is unable to open due to Covid 19 guidelines and restrictions. We provide on-line workshops through video-conferencing and telephone support, which is open to everyone. The Involvement Centre will be going on line from November 15th 2020, Monday to Friday for 3 hours per day. This will be in the format as an open drop in centre on line managed by volunteers.

The Mental Health Service is currently reviewing the checklist in line with the guidance from Health and Safety Authority/Health Protection Surveillance Centre in addressing the re-opening of services.

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

Yours sincerely,

David Heffernan
Head of Mental Health Services
South East Community Healthcare