



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Head of Service,
Disability Services
HSE Mid West Community Healthcare,
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22nd September, 2020

Deputy Cathal Crowe, TD
Constituency Office
4 Francis Street
Ennis
Co. Clare V95W9NP

RE: PQ Ref 21835/20

To ask the Minister for Health the reason funding has been cut for a service (details supplied) resulting in some of those availing of the service being cut from five to two days; and the steps which will be taken to rectify the situation.

Brothers of Charity Services in Clare

Dear Deputy Crowe

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 is the HSE's position.

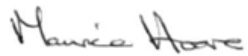
I can confirm that in March 2020 due to Covid 19, the Brothers of Charity Services in Clare were advised to close services in line with public health advice and government restrictions at that time. This led to the widespread closure of day services throughout the country. In terms of meeting those with the greatest needs, Priority 1 and Priority 2 clients were identified and as a result the Brothers of Charity Services have endeavoured to support these high priority families in providing a service throughout Covid 19.

In July 2020, the HSE communicated to the Brothers of Charity Services to prepare for the resumption of day services in line government restrictions and public health advice. Due to public health restrictions and the need to keep all service users safe, it is acknowledged that capacity in day services has been reduced since re opening in August 2020 with all Service Providers committed to providing a level of service to all services users. However this has led to a situation whereby services users are now receiving a reduced level of service compared to the quantum of service they received pre-Covid 19.

I wish to advise you that additional resources have been sought from Government through the HSE's Covid 19 Restoration Plan to allow for a full resumption of services.

I trust this clarifies the situation but should you require any further information or clarification in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Maurice Hoare'.

Maurice Hoare
Head of Service – Disability Services
HSE Mid-West Community Healthcare