

General Manager Older Persons Residential Service HSE Mid West Community Healthcare Ballycummin Avenue Raheen Business Park Limerick, V94 D1W9

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30th September 2020

Deputy Cathal Crowe Houses of the Oireachtas Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

RE: PQ 25503/20

"To ask the Minister for Health, if nursing homes with high levels of vacant beds will be considered for use to alleviate pressure on the hospital system as stepdown facilities in view of the level of overcrowding in University Hospital Limerick this week; and if he will make a statement on the matter"

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.

The public nursing homes in the Mid West support the flow of patients from University Hospital Limerick on an ongoing basis and priority is given to the transfer of patients to vacant beds to support the acute hospital services.

If you require further clarification on the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Sheila Ryan

General Manager

Older Persons Residential Services