



6<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Deputy Seán Crowe, TD  
Dáil Eireann  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2.

**Re PQ: 19746/21**

To ask the Minister for Health the reason for the current closure of Keltoi rehabilitation and residential unit in the Phoenix Park and the closure of St. Michael's unit in Beaumont Hospital in 2020; if his attention has been drawn to the effect this is causing on other services and providers throughout the city and those in the CHO7 area (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Crowe,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

Keltoi Residential Unit previously provided residential rehabilitation program to service users as follow on to participants completing a residential detox program. As part of the HSE response to Covid-19 services provided by Keltoi were suspended so that the facility could be used as part of our critical response to the challenge of Covid-19 in our area.

The facility in Keltoi provides a specific Social Inclusion response to the management of Covid-19 in the area that cannot be met within other services that have been set up by the HSE. The requirement for the use of Keltoi as Covid-19 response will be continually reviewed but it is anticipated that Keltoi would be required for the foreseeable future.

The HSE had previously moved the aftercare programme to our Stanhope Centre in Dublin 7 rather than in Keltoi. This programme has continued to operate delivered by Keltoi counselling staff who are based in the Stanhope Centre since the residential programme closed through online sessions. Staff from Keltoi triaged all aftercare clients and provided 1 to 1 counselling by telephone / online and online group work for others that were in aftercare so as service users were still provided therapeutic support. Also additional health and social supports, including consultant psychiatrist support have continued to be provided as required.

The closure of Keltoi has reduced an average 52 treatment beds per year and HSE has purchased extra capacity in other Tier 4 services for addiction service users to accommodate the above shortfall across the Dublin region.



In relation to St. Michael's Ward, Beaumont Hospital, I understand that the Deputy was written to on 27<sup>th</sup> April by the CEO of the Hospital advising that plans are ongoing for the reopening of the St. Michael's Ward in June 2021. (See attached Appendix).

The non availability of the programme has impact on patients care plans and their continuum of care, the priority should be the re-establishment of St. Michael' to its primary function at the earliest.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Doyle', written over a horizontal line.

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Joseph Doyle  
National Lead, Social Inclusion



## OSPIDÉAL BEAUMONT

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April 27, 2021.

Dear Mr Crowe

Reference your enquiry with regard to St. Michael's Ward, Beaumont Hospital.

As part of the Hospital's contingency planning for the management of COVID-19, St. Michael's Ward is currently being used as a COVID-19 vaccination centre.

There has been no decision to close St. Michael's Ward permanently. Plans are ongoing to reopen St. Michael's Ward for treatment of its regular cohort of patients in June 2021.

Yours sincerely,

**IAN CARTER**

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**