



CÚRAM SLÁINTE POBAIL
CORCAIGH CIARRAI
CORK KERRY
COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE

Oifig na Seirbhísí Sláinte Meabhrach | Cúram Sláinte Pobail Corcaigh & Ciarraí

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Páirc Gnó Model | Bóthar na Modh Feirme | Corcaigh
T12 HT02

Office of Mental Health Services | Cork Kerry Community Healthcare

Health Service Executive
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23rd December, 2021

Ms Neasa Hourigan, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 61580/21

“To ask the Minister for Health the details of emergency meetings held on 7 December 2021 regarding the impact of Storm Barra on the mental health services in counties Cork and Kerry, the recorded attendance of HSE managers who had agreed to attend an Oireachtas Committee on Health meeting that day and the times of the emergency meetings.”

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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.

In response to the status red severe weather warning alert issued by Met Éireann on 6th December 2021 Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CKCH) activated its business continuity procedures in line with the HSE Severe Weather Planning Guidance for HSE Services, September 2017, for responding to a severe weather event across its services.

For the duration of the severe weather alert Emergency Management Team Meetings were held at Regional, Community Healthcare Organisational, and local Management Team level as outlined below:

Emergency meetings of the Regional Steering Group

- Monday 6th December, 2021
- Tuesday 7th December, 2021 X 2

The Chief Officer of CKCH participated in these meetings.

Emergency Meeting of the local Crisis Management Team:

- Monday 6th December, 2021
- Tuesday 7th December, 2021

The Chief Officer of participated in these meetings.

Emergency Meeting of the Cork Kerry Management Team:

- Monday 6th December, 2021
- Tuesday 7th December, 2021

The Chief Officer of CKCH and the Acting Head of Mental Health Services South both participated in



these meetings.

Mental Health Management Team Meeting's:

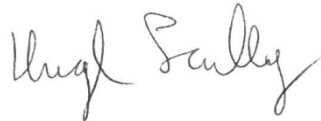
- Monday 6th December
- Tuesday 7th December

The Acting Head of Mental Health Services and Executive Clinical Director of Cork Mental Health Services South both participated in these meetings.

In addition to the above meetings, each of the CKCH and Estates representatives who were due to appear before the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health on 7th December would have been in constant contact throughout the day with HSE staff, line managers, emergency services, local authorities and other partners to ensure that our detailed contingency plans were in place to ensure the continuity of services at such a critical time. Our priority throughout the weather alert was the safety of our services users and staff, while at the same time minimising the disruption to services. In the immediate aftermath of the alert, our focus was to revert to normal service levels as quickly as possible. In this regard, we thank our staff for the work and planning they undertook to make sure that essential services were maintained and that those using our services were kept safe.

I trust you find the above clarifies the query raised.

Yours sincerely,



Hugh Scully
A/Head of Mental Health Services
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare