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9th February 2021

Deputy Sean Sherlock,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 1148/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of residential facilities for persons with disabilities that are currently closed due to Covid-19 infections; and the number of residents affected by county in tabular form

-Sean Sherlock

Dear Deputy Sherlock,

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

In preparing for and responding to COVID-19 and to fully align with Public Health guidance as recommended via the NPHET, the HSE and its partner service providers put in place a range of measures, which included the prioritisation of vital residential (including new emergency residential placements) services. In this regard, residential services have remained open throughout the pandemic and have managed any outbreak of COVID-19 on the basis of Implementing best possible infection prevention and control practice and following the relevant HSE Guidance and Resources for Disability Services for COVID-19, which are available under the tab HSE Approved Guidance for Disability Services at <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/covid19-updates/partner-resources>

HIQA has been supporting the national public health response to COVID-19 through the monitoring/tracking of confirmed or suspected outbreaks of the virus. The COVID tracker is based on mandatory NF02 notifications, whereby registered providers are mandated to report outbreaks within 72 hours.

The HIQA Disability Tracker provides information on confirmed and suspected cases of COVID-19 among the residents of registered disability residential facilities at a point in time. The table below shows the number of cases reported on 3rd February 2021, broken down by HSE Community Health Organisation (CHO) Area.

Confirmed Centres

03/02/2021

Row Labels	Centres	Residents Confirmed	Staff Confirmed	Residents Suspected	Staff Suspected
CHO1	46	7	49	5	7
CHO2	41	14	31	2	7
CHO3	41	3	18	4	12
CHO4	67	13	36	5	15
CHO5	49	12	29	2	13
CHO6	31	13	25	0	5
CHO7	76	31	58	10	31
CHO8	78	17	37	15	24
CHO9	62	18	45	3	7
Grand Total	491	128	328	46	121

While HIQA report 491 Centres with outbreaks, it should be noted that confirmed centres remain on the list for 28 days from date of last confirmed case of staff or resident and the latest data shows that 280 confirmed centres have Zero (0) active cases.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Yvonne O'Neill,
Interim National Director,
Community Operations