

Office of Mental Health Services | Cork Kerry Community Healthcare

Health Service Executive
Model Business Park | Model Farm Road | Cork
T12 HT02
T:021 4928724 / 021 4928581
E: MHCorkKerry@hse.ie

3rd November 2021

Deputy Neasa Hourigan,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 53126/21

“To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost savings to the community healthcare budget for counties Cork and Kerry of the closure of the Owenacurra Centre, Midleton, County Cork that would arise after all residents and staff have been transferred from the facility and it is no longer in operation.”

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.

The Owenacurra Facility located in Midleton comprises of a day centre and also the Owenacurra Approved Centre which is a continuing care unit registered with the Mental Health Commission to provide Psychiatry of Later Life, continuing mental health care and mental health rehabilitation services. In addition, the Owenacurra Day Hospital is located on the grounds of the Midleton Community Hospital.

The budget assigned to Mental Health Services in Owenacurra is €3.1m for 2021. This includes pay and non-pay costs such as payroll, cleaning and sensitisation, catering, utilities, maintenance, etc. The process of finding the most appropriate alternative placements for all residents of the Owenacurra Approved Centre is underway and will continue for several more months to achieve our aim of finding the most appropriate placements possible and minimise disruption for residents. There is no plan to reduce staffing levels during this process and therefore there will be no reduction to service costs / budget assigned to the Owenacurra Centre in 2021. Having consideration for the process underway with regards to identifying the most suitable placement for every resident based on their assessed needs, will and preferences it is not possible at this point to confirm what savings may be made within the Mental Health Services budget at the point in time the centre becomes non-operational.

I trust you find the above clarifies the query raised.

Yours sincerely,



Kevin Morrison,
A/Head of Mental Health Services
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare