



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  
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**Office of Mental Health Services | Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**

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15<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Deputy James O' Connor,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ 54297 / 21**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if the details of the costings for the renovations of the Owenacurra Centre, Midleton, County Cork will be made available; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”**

Dear Deputy O'Connor,

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 Centre is a Mental Health Services continuing care unit in Midleton Co. Cork. It is registered with the Mental Health Commission to provide a service for Psychiatry of Later Life, continuing mental health care, and mental health rehabilitation.

The original plan for the Owenacurra Centre was to refurbish the building so as to bring it to a standard that allows for the provision of care and recovery which a modern service should provide and one that matches the care being provided there. Costings approved under 2020 capital funding were to allow for refurbishment however it is important to note that the proposed works submitted at the time would not have taken into consideration nor would they now address the issues in regards to the overall footprint of the unit. As outlined in correspondence to date, once planning work for the approved refurbishment began, and based on commissioned reports, it was established that refurbishment would effectively mean demolishing the building, as a full refurbishment in itself would not guarantee that the building would meet building requirements or be regarded as fit for purpose.

The difficult but necessary decision to close the unit was made in consultation with our Estates colleagues given the unacceptable deficiencies in the accommodation and the investment of significant funding into a building which would still not bring the unit up to an acceptable accommodation standard for residents.

In light of this decision you will note that there are no plans to renovate or refurbish the Owenacurra Centre in Midleton and therefore costings for such are not available to furnish.



I trust you find the above clarifies the query raised.

Yours sincerely,



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