

29<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

Deputy Neasa Hourigan,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 55479/21**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if the clinical directors of the West Cork, South Lee and North Cork Adult Mental Health Services have agreed to accept referrals of service users under the care of the Middleton/Youghal and Cobh/Glenville Adult Mental Health teams for long stay or respite placements in the community residences attached to their catchment areas into the future; if there is a waiting list for any of the community mental health residences in West Cork, South Lee and North Cork at present, and, if so, the number on the waiting lists and the duration in each case; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”**

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

The response to your parliamentary question has been broken down into the three sections as set out below.

**Have the Clinical Directors agreed to accept referrals of service users under the care of the Middleton/Youghal and Cobh/Glenville Adult Mental Health teams for long stay or respite placements in the community residences attached to their catchment areas into the future:**

The process of assessing referrals of service users for long stay or respite placements is a clinical decision making process and is based on the service user’s assessed needs, as well as the will and preference of the service user. Each case is assessed in a normal manner and takes account of the complexity of the case and wishes of the service user. It would be inappropriate to comment further given the potential to identify individuals who may be referred from these sectors to other catchment areas but I can assure you that any referral made is done so in consultation with the service user involved

**Is there is a waiting list for any of the community mental health residences in West Cork, South Lee and North Cork at present:**

I can confirm that in the South Lee catchment, a waiting list is not maintained. As beds become available requests are made for suitable referrals and all referrals are then discussed for suitability of placement and beds allocated at an admissions meeting. In North Lee there is a waiting list in

operation for the three community residences in North Cork. There are currently no waiting lists in operation at present in West Cork.

**If so, the number on the waiting lists and the duration in each case**

In the South Lee catchment area, no waiting list is in operation. In the North Lee catchment area, the following waiting lists apply: Solus Nua in Mallow has a waiting list of 1 -3 months; Cois Alla in Kanturk currently has a waiting list of 1 – 2 months duration; Carraigabrick in Fermoy currently has a waiting list of 1 – 12 months duration. In West Cork as outlined above this is not applicable.

I trust you find the above clarifies the query raised.

Kind regards,



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