

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

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10th December 2021

Deputy Pat Buckley, Dáil Éireann, Dublin 2

PQ ref 59132/21

"To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE has found an appropriate replacement building in Midleton, County Cork to provide mental health day care services if the Owenacurra Centre is to close; if so, the location of this building; if services are running at 100%; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Buckley

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 housed a day centre on the grounds of the Owenacurra Approved Centre which provides long term care for residential patients. In response to restrictions in place throughout 2020 in the context of the Covid 19 pandemic and to ensure adherence to the national guidelines in relation to Covid 19, access to the day centre was suspended in March 2020 so as to protect long term residents of the Owenacurra Approved Centre. Whilst the day centre itself was effectively closed, continuity of service has remained in place, with community mental health teams actively and regularly in contact with service users who would normally have availed of the day centre. In addition, service users also have access to the Owenacurra Day Hospital which is located on the grounds of the Midleton Community Hospital.

I can confirm that options for suitable locations have been identified for an enhanced day centre service within the town of Midleton. We will confirm the location of this new enhanced day service as soon as all options appraisals have been completed and all relevant funding applications have been made and approved by the HSE national Eestates function.

I trust you find the above clarifies the query raised.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Morrison,

A/Head of Mental Health Services Cork Kerry Community Healthcare

