



Oifig an Cheannasaí Oibríochtaí & Feabhsúcháin Seirbhíse  
Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta  
Tel: 087 345 5593  
Email: olderpeople.operations@hse.ie

Office of the Assistant National Director - Operations  
Services for Older People  
Tel: 087 345 5593  
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17<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Deputy Holly Cairns  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2

PQ 42781/21

To ask the Minister for Health if he will ensure the resumption of all daycare services for elderly people in community hospitals immediately.

Dear Deputy Cairns,

The HSE has continued to prioritise the re-opening of Day Care Centres for Older People over the over the summer months. This focus has been on both directly operated HSE Day Care Centres and also on Day Care Services provided under grant aid funding by the HSE. An updated guidance to assist Day Care Centres with re-opening was published on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021. A webinar hosted by HSE Public Health also took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021 to assist providers with further queries/advice to assist with re-opening services in the safest environment and in line with public health guidance. The table below sets out the current position in relation to the resumption of services by Community Healthcare Organisation across the country.

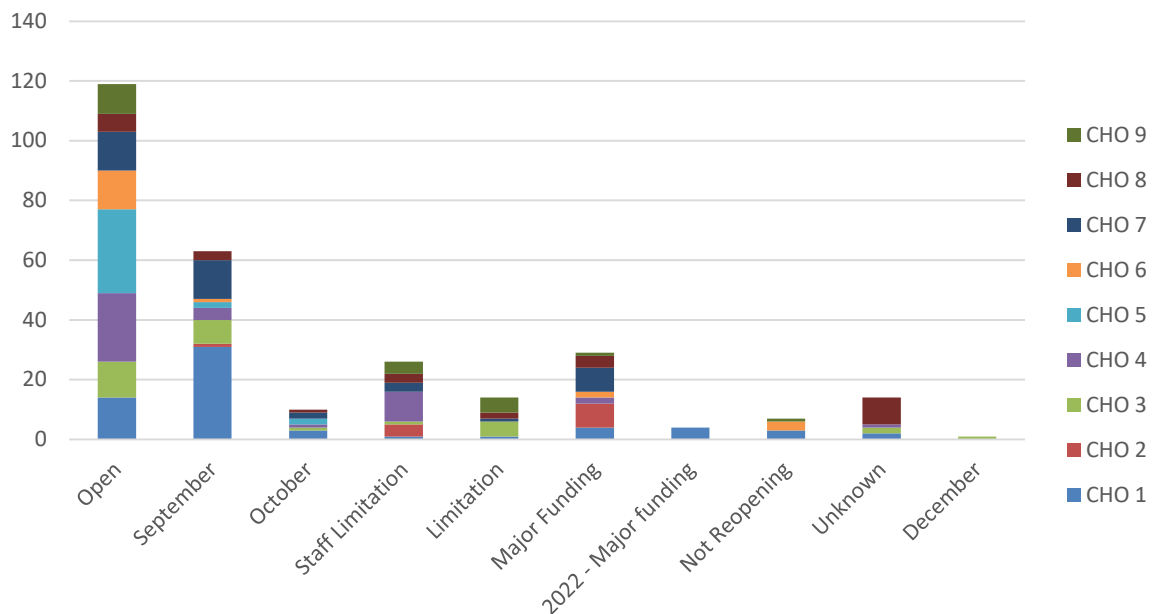
Current Status – Day Care Centres for Older People										
	CHO 1	CHO 2	CHO 3	CHO 4	CHO 5	CHO 6	CHO 7	CHO 8	CHO 9	Total number of centres reported on
Currently Open	14		12	23	28	13	13	6	10	119
September	31	1	8	4	2	1	13	3		63
October	3		1	1	2		2	1		10
Staff Limitation	1	4	1	10			3	3	4	26
Limitation	1		5				1	2	5	14
Major Funding	4	8		2		2	8	4	1	29
2022 - Major funding	4									4
Not Reopening	3					3			1	7
Unknown	2		2	1				9		14
December			1							1



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Total number of centres reported on	63	13	30	41	32	19	40	28	21	287
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- A number of Day Care Services have advised there will be issues getting staff back who have been redeployed to other key services and others have reported refurbishment work will be required to get services back etc. A number of HSE funded voluntary organisations have also advised their staff will not return to Day Care Services and they need to recruit for these posts and will not be able to re-commence their service until these staff have been recruited.
- Some Day Care Services have also re-directed their services to home supports, meals on wheels etc., and plans are being put in place to support these clients who may not be attendees at the Day Care Service or will have deteriorated to a point that they will not be able to return to the Day Care Service.
- Information is based on HSE direct operated services and HSE funded services only. It does not include social groups/voluntary groups who are outside of the remit of the HSE but



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these groups will also benefit from updated public health guidance which should facilitate the voluntary/active retirement type groups to resume their activities.

- The National Office for Older People, Community Operations will continue to support the local services to ensure as many services as possible can resume as priority.
- The Day Care Focus Group will remain in place (representative of both HSE and voluntary sector) to oversee the resumption of day care services and provide feedback in relation to both service delivery and users of the services.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Sandra Tuohy".

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Sandra Tuohy,  
Assistant National Director - Community Operations,  
Services for Older People.