

Office of Mental Health Services | Cork Kerry Community Healthcare

Health Service Executive

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12th October 2021

Mr. James O'Connor, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 46070/21 Owenacurra Centre

"To ask the Minister for Health if his Department is currently engaged in retaining any of the existing services other than residential care in the Owenacurra Mental Health Facility in Midleton, County Cork"

Dear Deputy O'Connor

By way of background, 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.

I wish to assure you that 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.

Mental Health Services are liaising with our Estates colleagues to explore and identify a suitable location in Midleton for a new and enhanced day centre service.

I trust you find the above clarifies the query raised.

Yours sincerely,



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