

2nd November, 2021

Ms Sorca Clarke T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question – 46815/21

To ask the Minister for Health his views on the long-term leasing of suitable premises by the HSE to an organisation (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Sorca Clarke

Details - the Order of Malta Unit in Mullingar

Dear Deputy Clarke,

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. I have examined the matter and I outline the position as follows.

I regret to inform you that there is no vacant accommodation which would be suitable for the Order of Malta available in the Mullingar Area at present.

We currently have increasingly significant demands for accommodation in the Mullingar area for CHO8 services both current and new. This increasing demand is as a consequence of the Enhanced Community Care (ECC) programme which is currently being rolled out with many new staff for Community Health Networks, Chronic Disease Management and Integrated Care Programme Older Persons.

Accommodation for these new staff is the current priority from National and for me as Chief Officer.

However, I would advise that an accommodation request should be submitted to the Westmeath accommodation group next year and it will be included on the agenda so the group could make a determination on whether there is any available accommodation and whether it is appropriate that the Order of Malta (or any third party) would be accommodated.

I attach the application form which should be submitted to cho8.accommid@hse.ie for the attention of the Chairperson.

Should a decision be made to offer accommodation, a formal agreement will need to be put in place in line with the HSE Property Protocol. Should this be a below market transaction (nominal rent / licence fee) then HSE Board approval is required.

I trust that the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Des O'Flynn', written over a horizontal line.

Des O'Flynn
Chief Officer
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation