



Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Caipiteal agus Eastáit
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Ms Neasa Hourigan, TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

18th May 2022

PQ 19230/22* To ask the Minister for Health when a property (details supplied: Glenwood House at Carrigaline, Millfield House, Blackpool;) was identified as a replacement property for another property; the reason the HSE did not proceed with selling the property since it was identified as not fit for purpose; if residents were informed by the HSE that this facility was due to be sold at any stage; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Neasa Hourigan

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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 service requested the HSE Estates Department to source additional stock for community living in the context of issues with the quality of the existing stock available. HSE Estates conducted a search of properties in Cork which identified one location which it deemed suitable for the service needs. Approval to purchase the property was received at the start of November 2020. The service pursued this option and the premises in Carrigaline was purchased. As the premises was now to be used as part of the health services, it was necessary to adapt the premises to meet the appropriate regulations. The property represents an opportunity for service users of Mental Health Services in Cork to experience high quality accommodation in a community residential setting. Mental Health Services has applied for Planning Permission in relation to the premises and a decision on this application is expected shortly.

At the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, the risk was identified that residents in a high support hostel were sharing small multi-occupancy rooms and every effort was made to source more suitable, safer accommodation from an Infection, Prevention and Control perspective. Alternative accommodation was sourced which allowed single room occupancy for all residents.

With regard to the current status of Millfield House, please note that the HSE are currently arranging the preparation of the Land Registry compliant map for the property and no final decision has been made with regard to the sale or otherwise of this property therefore no consultation process is ongoing in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Paul de Freine
Interim National Director,
Capital & Estates