

Ceann Seirbhíse, Daoine Scothaosta, Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin – Cúram Sláinte Pobail Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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22nd April 2022

Patricia Ryan, T.D Houses of Oireachtas Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 20786 22 - Day Care Centres in Co Kildare

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of day care centres in County Kildare that have yet to reopen; the number that will be reopened by September 2022; if any will not be in a position to reopen by that date; and if he will make a statement on the matter"

Patricia Ryan

Dear Deputy Ryan,

There are eleven Day Care services for Older People in Co Kildare. Eight services have resumed onsite Day Care provision (six resumed in 2021 and a further two resumed on-site in 2022). The number of placements available in Day Care remains temporarily reduced as the Health Protection Surveillance Centre's advice of one meter social distancing in day care settings for Older People, continues to be in place.

Three Services continue to work towards resumption of on-site Services. Two of these are Section 39 funded agencies and challenges to resumption of on-site Day Care relate to accommodation for one agency and staff recruitment for the second. Both agencies are actively working to resolve these challenges. HSE funding is in place for both Agencies to support the resumption of Services.

The third Service yet to resume on-site is a HSE Day Care Service. This Service operates from a building owned by a voluntary committee who are undertaking refurbishment works. The works have taken significantly longer to complete than anticipated due to challenges for the Committee caused by global issues in engaging contractors and building supplies.

Progress up-dates are expected from the two Section 39 Agencies and the Committee for the building used to provide the HSE service during May 2022. Every effort is being made by the HSE to support the resumption of these three Day Care Services on-site, by the end of September 2022. Staff in the three Day Care Services continue to engage with Day Care Service Users remotely and to offer alternative supports.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

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Loraine Kennedy Head of Older Persons Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare