

23rd December 2022

Deputy Neasa Hourigan
Dáil Éireann
Dublin 2

PQ ref 61807/22

“To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 484 of 16 November 2021, 1715 of 19 January 2022, 169 of 9 February 2022, 186 of 23 March 2022, 720 of 17 May 2022 and 1903 of 14 June 2022, in recognition of the fact that removing the majority of 24-hour staffed placements from east Cork will entail that service need being met in other parts of Cork where those placements continue to be funded; if the clinical directors of the west Cork, north Cork and south Lee HSE mental health catchment areas have agreed with CHO4 HSE senior management to accept out of area respite or long-stay referrals from east Cork into community residences under their clinical governance in the event that a centre (details supplied) is closed; if so, if he will provide dates for when any such agreements may have been made; the context in which such agreements were made; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”
Details Supplied: The Owenacurra Centre

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

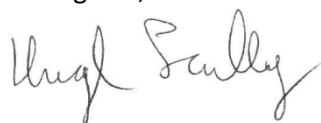
The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for the Minister for Health for a response.

There are a number of community residences, both in the form of continuing care and high support hostels within 25km radius of Owenacurra Unit. When a placement in a community residence is being considered, the multidisciplinary team meet the individual and their family members and aim to provide the placement that best suits the individual’s needs.

I can confirm that referrals for all services within Cork Mental Health Services are available to any service user presently residing in Cork. If a services user has a preference to move to another area within Cork, a referral will be considered and assessed by the treating Consultant in the receiving catchment area.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Kind regards,



Mr. Hugh Scully
A/General Manager
Mental Health Services, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare