

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse, Seirbhísí Cúram Príomhúil An Cabhán, Muineachán, Sligeach, Liatroim & Dún na nGall

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11th February 2022

Deputy Pearse Doherty Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Re: PQ 4337/21 To ask the Minister for Health when dental services will resume in St. Joseph's Community Hospital, Stranorlar, County Donegal: and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Doherty,

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 the following outlines the position

The dental service in Stranorlar was suspended on a temporary basis due to the unsuitability of accommodation as deemed by HIQA and IPC standards and it also failed to make standards required with respect to Covid. The dental department has been in regular communication with HSE management to source alternative suitable accommodation. Accommodation is now under consideration with view to procurement by the HSE and if this is successful following completion of clinical infrastructure the clinic will be operational again. This project has been deemed as urgent and has been given due attention for its completion. In the interim full service has and will continue to be provided for all primary school children and eligible patients in the Stranorlar/Ballybofey area through our dental clinics in Letterkenny, Lifford and Donegal Town.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Dermot Monaghan,

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse, Seirbhísí Cúram Príomhúil An Cabhán, Muineachán, Sligeach, Liatroim & Dún na nGall Head of Service, Primary Care Cavan, Monaghan, Sligo, Leitrim & Donegal.