

20th January 2022

Mr. Pa Daly, TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 1388/22

“To ask the Minister for Health the hours of operation of additional Covid-19 PCR testing centres in County Kerry; the testing capacity; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Daly,

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.

There was an extraordinary and unprecedented demand for Covid-19 PCR testing in the Cork and Kerry in late December and early January due to the high incidence of Covid 19 in the community. The pop up test centre in Killarney was run by the National Ambulance Service as a temporary site to support the established local service in meeting the unprecedented demand for Covid testing which had been experienced over Christmas and into January. This temporary site was operational on:

- January 12th from 9.30 am to 17.30 pm
- January 13th from 9.30 am to 17.30 pm
- January 14th from 9.30 am to 17.30 pm
- January 16th from 10 am to 16.00pm
- January 17th from 11am to 17.00.

Demand has now reduced and local established services have adequate capacity to meet current demand as evidenced by the fact that all established sites have appointments available on the Self- Referral portal. Therefore the temporary site at Killarney has now been stood down. The public can be assured that that a test appointment can be accessed readily at the Tralee Test Centre.

I trust that this information will be of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Kathleen O'Mahony

**Kathleen O Mahony,
General Manager,
Covid Unit,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare | Health Service Executive | Covid Unit
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