

27th January 2022

Deputy Neasa Hourigan
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 1413/22

“To ask the Minister for Health the way serious concerns expressed by his Department in relation to the fire safety in the Owenacurra Centre, Midleton can be reconciled with assurances given to the public and families that the residents are not in danger; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this Department for response.

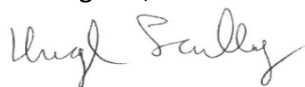
Having liaised with the HSE South Estates Department, I can confirm that the following safety risk mitigation measures have been undertaken to support fire safety at the Owenacurra Centre:

- Adjusting of the fire safety strategy in an appropriate manner to ensure the on-going safety of residents.
- Conducting regular fire evacuation drills and rostering an additional member of staff for the premises to ensure full assistance for residents is available should there be a need to evacuate the building.
- Resident's mobility levels are constantly monitored with the fire evacuation strategy adapted to each resident's individual needs.

Please note, the building's fire safety systems are serviced and monitored in accordance with the applicable Irish Standards. I can assure you the safety and wellbeing of residents remains our utmost priority.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Kind Regards,



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