

20<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Deputy Christopher O'Sullivan, T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref: 63521/21**

**"To ask the Minister for Health when the day care centre at Clonakilty Community Hospital will return to normal service; and if he will make a statement on the matter".**

Dear Deputy O'Sullivan,

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.

The Day Care Centre in Clonakilty Community Hospital has not yet reopened due to staffing-related issues. As I previously advised you, a number of staff were redeployed to Ballinacarriga Covid testing centre while the Day Care Centre was closed. Ongoing high demand for testing during this current surge in Covid case numbers is presenting a challenge in returning staff to their Day Care Centre posts and it is difficult to forecast when testing demand will ease. The reopening of Clonakilty Day Care Centre is dependent on having in place the appropriate staffing levels across both services and recruitment of staff for the test centre is ongoing.

The benefit provided by Day Care Centres is of considerable value to clients and their families, and the resumption of full Day Care services across the region remains a service priority for Cork Kerry Community Healthcare.

I trust that this clarifies the position. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



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Jackie Daly  
Head of Service for Older Persons