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Mr Michael Lowry, TD  
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Leinster House,  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

20th July 2022

**PQ 36503/22 To ask the Minister for Health the reason that level 2 palliative care support bedrooms cannot be internally modified, despite public private partnership approval, to include an adjacent family room as has been outlined previously that the circumstances and needs of palliative care patients and their families differ significantly to elderly patients and thus sharing a common family room is not optimal. -Michael Lowry**  
**Location clarified as St Anthony's Clonmel**

Dear Deputy Lowry,

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 Community Nursing Unit (CNU) at St Anthony's, Clonmel, has been designed in compliance with the requirements of the national brief approved by the HSE for provision of this type of accommodation.

The palliative care bedrooms in all CNU's are designed with additional acoustic and ventilation requirements to cater for the specific requirements of patient's accommodated in these rooms. The overall design of a CNU considers the needs of all residents including those receiving palliative care. This includes providing access to support areas, external areas, day rooms, visitor rooms and family rooms.

The delivery of a CNU by public private partnership does not change the design requirements. These are consistent with the design of CNU's which are delivered by Exchequer funding.

Yours sincerely,

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**Paul de Freine**  
**National Director,**  
**Capital & Estates**