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Ms Neasa Hourigan, TD
Dail Eireann,
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7th July 2022

PQ 29356/22*To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 715 of 10 May 2022, the reasons that have been provided in the HSE's 2021 Capital Plan for the replacement of Millfield House, Blackpool as the rationale for the HSE purchasing Glenwood House, Carrigaline given that Millfield House was not subsequently sold and no renovations were carried out there in the two years since its residents have been living in Garnish House, Cork; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Neasa Hourigan - PREVIOUS PQ 22725/22

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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 rationale for the acquisition of the property referred to as Glenwood House, Carrigaline, and its inclusion in the Capital Plan, relates specifically to the appropriateness of original accommodation in Millfield House. During the early emergency phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was identified that residents in Millfield House, Mental Health facility were sharing small, multi-occupancy rooms and were at significant risk of contracting the Coronavirus and, Garnish House, Cork was sourced which allowed single room occupancy for all Millfield residents and also single rooms for a number of residents from other community residences.

In order to comply with appropriate clinical guidance, and protect individuals from contracting COVID-19, every effort was made to source suitable, longer term, single room accommodation for these residents. The HSE acquired Glenwood House, Carrigaline for this purpose and as an opportunity to address significant shortcomings in the stock of mental health residential services in Cork.

It is planned to bring Glenwood House into use on completion of statutory planning and related processes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul de Freine".

Paul de Freine
National Director,
Capital & Estates