

31st March 2022

Deputy Pat Buckley
Dáil Éireann
Dublin 2

PQ ref 14324/22

“To ask the Minister of Health if the HSE has found an appropriate building or premises in Midleton, County Cork to provide mental health day care services which were suspended in March 2020 and formally administered at the Owenacurra Health Centre if the service is running at 100%; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

PQ ref 14325/22

“To ask the Minister of Health the location and name of the proposed premises to provide mental health day care services in Midleton, County Cork due to the removal of services from the Owenacurra Health Centre, Midleton, County Cork in March 2020; if the day care services have resumed; if the service is running at 100%; and if he will make a statement on the matter”

Dear Deputy Buckley,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

In response to restrictions in place throughout 2020 in the context of the Covid 19 pandemic and to ensure adherence to the national guidelines in relation to Covid 19, access to the day centre was suspended in March 2020 so as to protect long term residents of the Owenacurra Approved Centre. Whilst the day centre itself was effectively closed, continuity of service has remained in place, with community mental health teams actively and regularly in contact with service users who would normally have availed of the day centre. In addition, service users also have access to the Owenacurra Day Hospital which is located on the grounds of the Midleton Community Hospital.

On an interim basis, a community space owned by Respond Housing Association has been identified to lease. The property is located in Midleton town. It was agreed that this community space was a suitable option day services in a temporary capacity and work is ongoing to progress an early start to the service.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Kind Regards,



Mr Kevin Morrison

A/Head of Mental Health Services, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare