



**Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Caipiteal agus Eastáit**  
Ospidéal Sir Patrick Dun, Sráid na Canálach Móire Íocht.  
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Ms Neasa Hourigan, TD  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

24<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**PQ 22725/22\* “To ask the Minister for Health the reasons that the sale of Millfield House, Blackpool has been provided 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**

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.

At the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, it was identified that residents in Millfield House were sharing small multi-occupancy rooms and every effort was made to source more suitable accommodation from infection prevention and control perspective. Garnish House was sourced which allowed single room occupancy for all Millfield House residents and also single rooms for a number of residents from other community residences

The service requested the HSE Estates Department to source additional stock for community living in the context of issues with the quality of the existing stock available. HSE Estates conducted a search of properties in Cork which identified Glenwood House, Carrigaline which it deemed suitable for the service needs. The service pursued this option and the premises in Carrigaline, was purchased. As Glenwood House was now to be used as part of the health services, it was necessary to adapt this premises to meet the appropriate regulations.

The property represents an opportunity for service users of Mental Health Services in Cork to experience high quality accommodation in a community residential setting. Mental Health Services has applied for Planning Permission in relation to Glenwood House and a decision on this application is expected shortly.

If the Permission is granted, the service will proceed with the identification of the particular service users who may take up residence in the unit, based on their assessed needs and their will and preference. These service users will be included in planning the final refurbishment and redecoration of the unit. The Service will also resume its engagement with the local Residents Association in relation to the introduction of the service to the community.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul de Freine', written in a cursive style.

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