

26<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Deputy Neasa Hourigan  
Dáil Éireann  
Dublin 2

**PQ 22729/22**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the reasons that the rental of Garnish House, Cork has continued for two years; when Cork and Kerry HSE intend to terminate this contract; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”**

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, the risk was identified that residents in a high support hostel were sharing small multi-occupancy rooms and every effort was made to source more suitable, safer accommodation from an Infection, Prevention and Control perspective. Alternative accommodation was sourced which allowed single room occupancy for all residents.

Please be aware, no final decision has been made by the HSE in relation to the termination of this contract. The provision of community residence accommodation and its infection prevention and control measures remain a priority for the service, and in that context the community residences within CKCH continue to be evaluated.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Kind Regards,



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**Mr Kevin Morrison**  
**A/Head of Service**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**