

13<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Deputy Neasa Hourigan  
Dáil Éireann  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 59221/22**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if the purchase of a house for use as a 24-hour staffed mental health facility in Midleton, County Cork has been completed by the HSE; if he will provide its exact location in Midleton; the total cost of the house; if it will require planning permission and adaptations or further works for use as a mental health facility and, if so, the budget for same; if it will include 'continuing care' placements or if it will function instead as a 'high support hostel'; the number of residents the facility will accommodate; the staffing levels for the service; and if he will make a statement on the matter..”**

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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

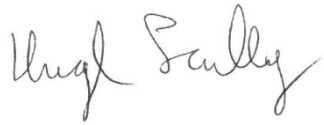
We remain committed to providing quality mental health services for the population of East Cork and the wider region. We strive to support the principle of maintaining people in their own homes and communities where possible, and bringing the specialist services required as close to the homes and communities as possible.

As you may be aware, the HSE has committed to providing at least one community residence in Midleton town, for three or four residents. The model for this service will be rehabilitation focussed also, with healthcare professional staff supporting the residents, with 24-hour staffing in place and staffed at a level required to facilitate 3-4 residents. A suitable property, located within Midleton, is being pursued for this purpose and a Property Transaction Approval Form for the purchase of this property has also been submitted for the approval of the National Property Review Group. I can confirm that the sale of this property has not yet been reached however is at a 'sale agreed' stage and contracts are expected to be finalised shortly. As per any newly purchased HSE property, an assessment of modifications is required to be undertaken, subject to successful purchase of the property.

Our plan for residential mental health services in the East Cork area will ultimately deliver a modern service into the future and in line with Government policy. Ultimately the HSE wishes to replace or significantly refurbish all approved centre's accommodation in Cork in line with Regulations and have submitted a Capital Plan for funding re same.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hugh Scully". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'H'.

**Mr. Hugh Scully**  
**A/General Manager**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**