

22nd September

Deputy Neasa Hourigan,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 42199/22

“To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 772 of 12 July 2022, the date on which the CHO4 HSE chief officer ascertained that they had support for the closure of the Owenacurra centre from local senior clinical managers prior to finalising the decision to close the service at a later meeting on 22 June 2021; the details of each of these consultations and meetings; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

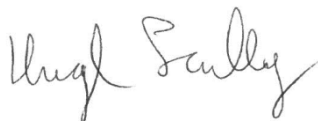
Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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.

Mental Health Services received a letter from HSE Estates on 18th June 2021 with a set of reports relating to Owenacurra Centre. On the 22nd of June 2021, the Chief Officer Cork/Kerry (CKCH) had a discussion to explore the options available in light of the available information. The current building is not fit for purpose and cannot be brought to the standard required. The decision to cease services at the Owenacurra centre was then taken by the Chief Officer, having considered the information pertaining to the condition of the building, its requirement to comply with Regulation and its future appropriateness to provide specialist residential services. The Chief Officer was clear that the decision had the support of senior clinical managers as well as operational management. The decision was taken on advice based on reports and advices from the Estates Department and was supported by the A/Head of Service, the Area Director of Nursing and Executive Clinical Director.

I trust the above clarified the queries raised.

Kind Regards,



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