

28th February 2023

Deputy Neasa Hourigan,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 7696/23

“To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 638 of 5 October 2021, 691 of 29 November 2022 and 1553 of 18 January 2023, the reason that the HSE is not yet clear if a property that it is purchasing in Midleton, County Cork, for the purpose of residential mental health placements will accommodate three or four residents even at the sale agreed stage of the purchase; if he will provide the total cost of this house purchase and any projected costs of further works that may need to be carried out on the house or grounds; whether planning permission will be required for its use as a mental health facility; 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.

Having liaised with the relevant teams I have been advised the following:

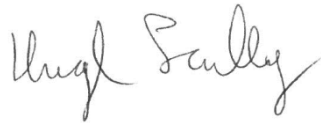
The HSE has committed to providing at least one community residence in Midleton town. The model for this service will be rehabilitation focussed also, with healthcare professional staff supporting the residents, with 24-hour staffing in place. A suitable property, located within Midleton, is being pursued 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.

Further to your queries please note the following:

- The residential accommodation will house 3 residents
- The purchase cost of the dwelling is €448,500
- The projected refurbishment cost is €365,217.60, the said refurbishment is required so as to comply with the regulations as noted in the community dwelling guidelines and for the dwelling to be upgraded to that of an A3 dwelling.
- The said dwelling usage is classed as that of a community dwelling and is therefore, exempt from the need of a planning application.

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' and 'S'.

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

