

22nd June 2023

Deputy Michael Healy-Rae. T.D.,
Dáil Éireann
Dublin 2

PQ ref 25818/23

"To ask the Minister for Health about a bus route being added for patients from Killarney to Kenmare Hospital (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter".

Details Supplied: "Minister In the evenings as the latest bus is at 3pm which is still very early. There have been talks about this later route being put in place however they have been told that there is a shortage of bus drivers, does the minister know of this route and if so does he know when this service will become available to patients travelling from Killarney to Kenmare Community Hospital."

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae,

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.

Kenmare Community Hospital is a residential centre for older persons and residents can avail of a range of services onsite. On occasion our residents may need to attend Outpatient appointments in acute hospitals and transportation is arranged through liaison with families and other parties.

CKCH Services for Older Persons is not aware of any HSE bus service which travels from Killarney to Kenmare Community Hospital. I understand that a Bus Éireann service does run from Killarney to Kenmare at 3 p.m. daily.

The Fiachne Day Centre is operated by our Mental Health Service colleagues on the Kenmare Community Hospital site and I have enquired if a HSE bus service is operating to transport attendees to the centre. The centre confirms that service users attend the Day Centre via their own arrangements (i.e. by car, public bus service or private taxi) and there is currently no HSE bus operating to the centre that I am aware of.

I regret that I cannot be of more assistance in this instance. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Jackie Daly
Head of Service for Older People