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**Deputy Joe McHugh** Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

## PQ ref 11636/23

To ask the Minister for Health when the day hospital will re-open at St. Joseph's Hospital, Stranorlar; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

## **Dear Deputy McHugh**

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.

Having examined the matter, I can confirm that St. Joseph's Day Hospital closed at the beginning of the COVID pandemic and in the course of that time the National Ambulance Service relocated an ambulance base to where the day hospital had previously been located. There were plans to relocate the day hospital to the Drogheda Ward in St. Joseph's but due to further planned refurbishment works in the hospital, this proposal is now on hold.

HSE Estates and Property Management are currently trying to source an alternative location in the Stranorlar/Ballybofey area for the provision of day care services and it is hoped that a suitable facility will be identified by Q3 of this year. All clients that had previously been attending day services in St. Joseph's have been offered alternative day care in Killygordon or Letterkenny Day Centres until such time as day services are up and running again in the Stranorlar/Ballybofey area.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Martin Collum **General Manager** Services for Older Persons Community Healthcare, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Cavan & Sligo Breffni Care Centre Ballyconnell, Co. Cavan.