

30th March 2023

Deputy Neasa Hourigan,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 12346/23

“To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the workings of the development team, announced by Cork HSE management in May 2022, appointed to conduct an options appraisal for the construction of a new 10-bed mental health rehabilitation residential service in Midleton, County Cork; the name of HSE management staff who have been appointed to the team; the dates of their appointments; the dates of the development team meetings held to date; if minutes are available for those meetings; if he will provide details on progress the development team has made on identifying a site for the service over the past eleven months; 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.

As you will be aware, the HSE will provide a new 10-bed rehabilitative residential unit in Midleton town. This service will have 24 hour staffing, and will have a focus on support people to return to their homes and communities. A development team will be appointed to conduct an options appraisal, and engage with people using mental health services in the area. The Owenacurra site will be among the possible locations considered. The development team will be appointed once we receive capital approval for the unit.

Our plan for residential mental health services in the East Cork area will ultimately deliver a much better service for people using our services now, and into the future and in line with Government policy.

The purchase of a property is an exciting development for mental health services in the area, and will allow for people to access residential services within a community.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Kind regards,



Ms. Julie O' Neill
Interim Head of Service
Mental Health Services
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare