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22nd May 2023

Deputy Neasa Hourigan,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 21507/23

“To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question Nos. 638 of 5 October 2021, 691 of 29 November 2022, 1553 of 18 January 2023, 204 of 15 February 2023, 1153 of 21 March 2023 and 1453 of 18 April 2023, the reason for a lack of any detail on staffing levels or basic service-planning for a new facility in Midleton, County Cork that will accommodate three residents with severe and enduring mental health difficulties (details supplied); how families whose relatives have already been offered placements in this service can be expected to make an informed decision on those offers in the absence of this information; the number of staff that will be deployed to the service on a day-to-day basis; if those regular staff who are on site daily will include psychiatric nurses or healthcare assistants or both; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Details supplied: on the basis, as stated in the response to Parliamentary Question No 1453 of 18 April 2023, that "staffing is not as yet in place as the community residence is not in use

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.

A community residence has been purchased in Midleton town which will be a new community residence for for 3 residents. The model of service will be rehabilitation focussed with 24 hour healthcare professional staff which will include mental health nursing and multi-task attendants. The community rehabilitation team will also provide support for the residents. CKCH Mental Health Services will shortly engage with residents and their families to arrange to view the house.

A refurbishment of the new property is required so as to comply with the regulations. This work will commence in the coming weeks. Staffing is not as yet in place as the community residence is not in use.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Yours sincerely,

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