



**Head of Service for Older Persons
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**
Health Service Executive
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Cúram Sláinte Pobail - Corcaigh & Ciarraí
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Teach Caha, Párc Ghnó & Teicneolaíochta
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14th February 2024

Deputy James O'Connor, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann
Dublin 2

PQ ref 48224/23:

"To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on the facilities of Midleton Hospital after the devastating floods during Storm Babet; if he will provide the details of the funding available for repairs to the hospital; if he will provide a timeline for a return of the hospital; and if he will make a statement on the matter".

Dear Deputy O'Connor,

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.

Midleton Community Hospital is a 43 bed facility which cares predominantly for older persons. Residents have access to a wide range of services including physiotherapy, podiatry/chiropractic, speech & language therapy (SALT), dietitian, optical, dental and hairdressing. Renovations and upgrade works have been undertaken to improve the quality of life of residents in the hospital, in compliance with regulations, while awaiting development and completion of a planned new building on site.

On Wednesday 18th October 2023, a number of towns in East Cork experienced severe flooding following the onset of Storm Babet. Over 100 houses and businesses in Midleton were affected, including a number of community health services in the town. Part of the building at Midleton Community Hospital site was impacted and all residents were evacuated safely to an unaffected part of the hospital as a temporary refuge on the night of the flooding. On the 19th November, all affected residents were safely relocated temporarily to Heather House at Saint Mary's Health Campus in Gurrabraher, Cork to more suitable accommodation. Cork Kerry Community Healthcare has expressed heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated staff and other statutory agencies for their efforts in ensuring the safety and well-being of residents at the community hospital during this serious event.

The section of the hospital impacted by the flooding has been assessed to determine the measures required to ensure that it can be safely occupied again and work has commenced in this regard. It is anticipated that our residents will be returning to their home in Midleton Community Hospital during Q.3, 2024.

I trust this clarifies the position. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Jackie Daly
Head of Service for Older People

