

25th September, 2023

Mr. Danny Healy-Rae, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 39156/23

"To ask the Minister for Health if a satellite palliative care unit (details supplied) will be provided in the new Killarney Community Hospital as part of its services; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Detail Supplied: "As the Palliative care unit in Kerry University Hospital Tralee is widely applauded for it's work and recognised as playing a very important role for people all over the County who need to use their services. I ask that a satellite Palliative Care unit be provided in the new Killarney Community Hospital as part of their services. Can this be provided?"

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.

Currently Kerry Specialist Palliative Care Service have an Inpatient Unit, Day Service in University Hospital Kerry, Outpatient Department, Day Hospital, and Multi-Disciplinary team (MDT) working in the community inclusive of Clinical Nurse Specialists and is Consultant led.

Currently palliative care patients living in South Kerry who are referred to the service are triaged and reviewed by either the Clinical Nurse Specialist team based in St. Columbanus Hospital, Killarney or the lead Consultant for South Kerry. The lead Consultant has an outpatient clinic in Killarney District Hospital. In addition, South Kerry patients can attend a Multi-Disciplinary Team Out Patient Department in Tralee as required in the Day Unit, University Hospital Kerry.

The HSE as part of its service planning will continue to assess expansion opportunities for the service in line with population needs and best practice.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Priscilla Lynch
Head of Service - Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare