

Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta, Cúram Sláinte Pobail an Mheán-Iarthair, Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Teach an Phiarsaigh, Bothar an Phiarsaigh, Pairc Gnó an Raithín, Luimneach I V94 1R71

Head of Service - Older Persons, HSE Mid-West Community Healthcare, Pearse House, Pearse Road, Raheen Business Park, Limerick V94 1R71.

DATE: 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY, 2024

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Deputy Michael McNamara Houses of the Oireachtas Leinster House Dublin 2

REF: PQ Reference 7557/24

To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the ongoing works at Raheen Community Hospital, County Clare; how many palliative care beds are currently operational at Raheen Community Hospital, Co. Clare and if he will make a statement on the matter.

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Dear Deputy McNamara,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

I wish to advise that the 2 designated Palliative Care Beds in Raheen Community Nursing Unit were not being utilised following major flooding. The works to repair the damage caused by the flooding have now been completed.

However, due to ongoing staffing deficits and the current employment control measures in place within the HSE, it has not been possible to reopen the 2 designated palliative care beds. Successful recruitment of staff to fill current vacant positions will determine the timeline for the reopening of the 2 Palliative Care beds.

I trust this information is of assistance to you and should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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Aisling Ryan
Head of Service – Older Persons Services
HSE Mid-West Community Healthcare