



Oifig an Bainisteoir Ginearálta,  
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21<sup>st</sup> May 2024

Deputy Pádraig MacLochlainn  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 22714/24**

*“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the reason for the delays in reopening respite services in the Ard Aoibhinn Unit in Carndonagh, County Donegal; when he expects a HIQA inspection to be carried out at the unit; and if he can provide an ongoing update on same, until such a time that it reopens.”*

Dear Deputy MacLochlainn

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 Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth for Health for response.

Having examined the matter, I can confirm that required upgrade works have been completed at the dementia-specific Ard Aoibhinn unit in Carndonagh Community Hospital. A HIQA inspection was carried out at the unit on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024 and HIQA will have to approve the works before the unit can be re-opened.

The HSE is currently awaiting the outcome of the HIQA inspection and if the works are approved, the service at Ard Aoibhinn will return to pre-works provision, i.e. six long-stay beds, three respite and seven assessment beds.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Martin Collum,  
General Manager,  
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