



Oifig na Príomhoifigeach agus Bainisteoir
Limistéar Sláinte Comhtháite Chiarraí

FSS Iardheiscirt, Ráth Teas, Tra Lí, Contae
Chiarraí, V92 YA25

Office of the Chief Officer Cork Kerry www.hse.ie
Community Healthcare and
Integrated Healthcare
Manager Kerry

HSE South West, Rathass, Tralee,
Co. Kerry, V92 YA25

@hselive

t 066 7184516
e Julie.oneill@hse.ie

26th February 2025

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

PQ ref 5027/25

“To ask the Minister for Health for and update on a matter (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.”

Details supplied: “I ask what are the HSE planning to do with the District Hospital and St. Columbanus Home, Killarney, which are due to be vacated very shortly, What consideration is given to the repeated calls for the provision of respite care for people with physical and intellectual disabilities and also a minor injuries clinic, Killarney is a central location in Kerry and would be very accessible for many, furthermore with various additional supports and services it would be a logical location.”

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.

Three Clinical Nursing Units (CNUs) in the HSE South West region are included in a national single bundle of CNUs to be developed by Public Private Partnership (PPP). One of these CNUs will be located in Killarney. The new Killarney CNU will replace the current services provided in St Columbanus Home and the District Hospital (Rehab Unit). The new Killarney CNU is being built in the grounds of the old St Finan's Hospital in Killarney. When completed, the residents and staff from St. Columbanus will transfer to Killarney CNU. Work on this new unit is progressing well and it is anticipated that the unit will open in Q4 2025.

Works will then commence on site to develop the Killarney Injury unit.

The new Minor Injury Unit which is planned for the Kerry area will be located in the grounds of St Columbanus Home. When the new Killarney CNU is completed and the residents and staff have transferred. Works will then commence on site to develop the Minor Injury Unit.

The HSE is currently transitioning to the new health regions structure and the agreed new structures will come into operation on 3 March 2025. On that date I will take up the role of Integrated Healthcare Area (IHA) Manager for the Kerry area. As part of the lead in to my new role I have established a Kerry Accommodation Integrated Working Group. This group will support the decision making process around staff and service accommodation across the Kerry Integrated Healthcare Area. As part of its brief the group is reviewing health service accommodation needs in the greater Killarney area and this work will inform any decision on the future use of the remaining available space on the Killarney Community Hospital / St. Columbanus campus.

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

Yours sincerely,

Julie O'Neill
Chief Officer
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare