

Ceann Seirbhíse, Míchumais Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin

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5 February 2025

Eoin Ó Broin TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 1346/25

Re: Stewarts Care, Rossecourt, Lucan, Co. Dublin

"To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth for clarification regarding information provided verbally to some families of day service users of an organisation at a location (details supplied) that these services will be ceasing; if this is the case, the reason this decision has been made; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

-Eoin Ó Broin

Dear Deputy Ó Broin,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth to the Health Service Executive for direct response. I requested that the Director of Care – Day Services for Stewarts Care examine the matter and the following outlines the position.

Thank you for raising your concerns for some families from Rossecourt Resource Centre. I appreciate the opportunity to clarify our principles and approach as we work towards meaningful day service reforms.

We are focused on de-congregating Rossecourt Resource Centre as a day service and, instead creating local hubs that allow individuals to connect with their community. Our goal is to facilitate meaningful connections in an individual's local community at their own pace.

Transitions should only occur if they are the express preference of the individual and demonstrate a good fit for their needs. It requires careful planning, community mapping, and a commitment to feedback and review. Supports, including transport, will be maintained based on individual needs.

It's important to recognise that transitions may not always be successful, and individuals are free to return to their previous services if that is their choice.

While we aim to de-congregate Rossecourt into more appropriate local settings, we also want to address any concerns or fears this may have created. We understand that many people have longstanding connections to Rossecourt and may prefer not to move, and that's entirely valid. An essential aspect to this is collaboration and working in partnership with the people we support and their families. Any change of service in the future will only happen once agreed by the individual and their family.

This reform is about supporting each person to live a fulfilled life in their own community, and we must respect diverse views and preferences.

Thank you once again for your engagement and concern.

I trust this information is of use to you. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

P.P

Margaret O'Neill

Interim Head of Service, Disability Services

Catherine Duty.

Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare.