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Ceannasaí Seirbhisí Duine Níos Sine, ECSP Lár Tíre An Lú An Mhí, Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, ECSP Lár Tíre An Lú An Mhí Oifig Ceantair, Ionad Slainte, An Mhuileann gCearr, Co. na hIarmhí Tel No: (044) 9395068 Head of Older Persons Services Midlands Louth Meath CHO, Health Service Executive, Midlands Louth Meath CHO Area Office, Health Centre, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath. Tel No: (044) 9395068

24th June, 2025

Deputy Micheál Carrigy, Dail Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Re: PQ ref 29096/25 – Continuation of Home Help Support at a location (The Dolmen Centre, Granard, Co Longford) where service users have been informed that this support will cease at the end of June 2025.

Dear Deputy Carrigy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above representation. I have examined the matter and outline the position below.

It was identified that one (1) Health Care Assistant (HCA) (Home Support) carer, directly employed by HSE, was providing three (3) hours services to the Dolmen Centre, which is a HSE funded service. These services were delivered as part of the HSE HCA (Home Support) contracted hours. These contracted hours are now being reassigned to support clients in the community currently on waiting lists, in line with our service prioritisation and resource allocation commitments.

The Dolmen Centre has been informed of this and that the HSE HCA (Home Support) carers may continue to provide services, if required. However, in such instances, the Dolmen Centre would be required to provide remuneration for their time.

Should the Dolmen Centre wish to maintain or expand the current level of service, we encourage them to pursue increased funding through the existing contract renewal process. This would allow for continued delivery of services in a sustainable and formally supported manner.

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

Dr Donal Fitzsimons

Head of Service, Older Persons Services Midlands Louth Meath CHO