



Office of the Head of Primary Care
Services
Community Health Organisation
Midlands Louth Meath

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23rd June 2025

Deputy Sorcha Clarke,
Leinster House
Kildare St.
Dublin 2

Re: ***PQ 31813/25** - To ask the Minister for Health in relation to the physiotherapist service in a care centre (details supplied) in Longford, following the noncompliance finding by HIQA in October 2024, and the ongoing attempts to source permanent location, the work that has been undertaken in terms of relocation to the primary care centre in Ballyminion; and if any findings have indicated it's not suitable.*

Dear Deputy Clarke,

Thank you for your query. The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above representation, which you recently submitted. In preparing this response your representation has been discussed with the relevant Managers. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

On the 21st February 2025 the physiotherapy services were relocated, as a result of a HIQA inspection (December 2024) findings. The service was located in the 'therapies section' of St Joseph's Care Centre and was relocated to Our Lady's Unit 2, on the St Joseph's campus. The construction of a 43 bed extension and ancillary accommodation is currently underway on this site and as part of this project, Our Lady's Unit 2 is scheduled for demolition in August.

An extensive feasibility study was carried out looking at several accommodation options to maintain the physiotherapy service in Longford. A site has been identified and the Physiotherapy Department will be relocated to the church on St Joseph's Campus, Longford. The church and other services will be relocated to the former Physiotherapy Department.

The current physiotherapy services are fully operational from St. Joseph's Care Centre. Short term alternative accommodation is in place to allow time for the relocation of services. To date there has been no reduction in physiotherapy services and every effort will be made to maintain delivery of services during the relocation of the department.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.



Yours sincerely,

Joseph Ruane
Head of Primary Care Services
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation