



2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2024

Michael McNamara, TD  
Lysaghts Lane  
Lower Market Street Car Park  
Ennis, Co. Clare

**RE: PQ 51949/23**

**To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the ongoing works at Raheen Community Hospital, County Clare; the reason these works preclude the provision of palliative care at the facility; when the works commenced; when the works are scheduled to conclude; how many palliative beds will be operational in the facility at the conclusion of said works and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy McNamara,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

I wish to advise that all works have been completed in Raheen Community Nursing Unit (CNU), since November, 2023.

These works were undertaken as a result of HIQA's requirement to reduce the number of multi-occupancy rooms in Raheen CNU to meet compliance. A 7 bedded extension was constructed, commissioned for use (January, 2023), and has since been registered with HIQA. The number or configuration of the bed in the CNU did not change as a result of this extension (20 Continuing Care, 2 Palliative Care and 3 Respite beds) as the 7 beds are replacement longstay beds. Additional staffing had been requested to facilitate the opening of the new unit.

Works were required following a flood in the unit in September 2023, which necessitated the temporary closure of the two Palliative Care Beds and one Respite bed and the relocation of a number of residents within the unit. The reopening of three temporarily closed beds is dependent on the successful recruitment of additional staffing as required for the Capital Project.

The provision of Palliative Care was not precluded during these works, the service endeavored to facilitate requests for care where appropriate.



I trust this information is of assistance to you and should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheila Ryan." The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

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**Sheila Ryan**  
**General Manager**  
**Older Persons Residential Services**