

Oifig um Cheannasaí Seirbhíse do Chúram Príomhúil Cúram Sláinte Phobail FSS an Mheán Iarthair Ascaill Bhaile Choimín, Páirc Gnó an Ráithín, Ráithín Luimneach Teil: 061 483226

Office of the Head of Service for Primary Care HSE Mid West Community Healthcare Ballycummin Ave, Raheen Business Park, Raheen, Limerick Tel: 061 483226

13th February 2024

Deputy Willie O'Dea 2 Glenview Gardens Farranshone Limerick

Re: PQ 4286/24 "To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware that a community (Coolmine Therapeutic Community) which provides residential addiction service to vulnerable women and children in collaboration with HSE Mid-West at Westbourne House, Limerick City, requires an alternative property; what efforts have been made to identify and provide a suitable residential premises to ensure that the service continues uninterrupted after December 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter".

Dear Deputy O'Dea,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Regional Co-ordintor for Drug & Alcohol Services (CHO3) advised that Coolmine Therapeutic Community contacted the HSE Drug & Alcohol Service on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024 to advise of their concerns in relation to the accommodation for their residential treatment programme based in Limerick. Coolmine advised that their current arrangement with the Sisters of Mercy for the lease of Westbourne House, Limerick, would cease at the end of December 2024.

The Regional Co-ordinator has confirmed that the HSE have held discussions with Coolmine Therapeutic Community and have communicated with them in this regard. He also advised that the HSE has supported Coolmine in relation to developments to date such as attending meetings with them and Limerick City & County Council.

The Regional Co-ordinator has confirmed that the HSE provide funding to Coolmine Therapeutic Community in respect of the residential treatment service they provide. The HSE would have no direct involvement in issues managed directly by the agency such as accommodation.

The Regional Co-ordinator has advised that the HSE will continue to work with Coolmine Therapeutic Community and Limerick City & County Council in relation to securing accommodation for the residential treatment service in the HSE Mid West area and support Coolmine in as far as is practical in this regard.

I trust this information addresses the issues raised in your representation.

Yours sincerely,

Marie Boyle

General Manager

**Primary Care**