

9th September, 2024

Marc MacSharry T.D.
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 28090/24

To ask the Minister for Health his views on a matter (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Can he confirm that the HSE are in negotiations with the now private commercial owner of the former Cregg House facility at Cregg Co. Sligo to lease the hydrotherapy facility which is within that property for the purposes of making it available to those with certain disabilities requiring weekly exercise within such a dedicated facility, if so can she confirm that the lease figure being considered is €230,000.00 per annum and if this is in fact the case, does the minister not think that a better use of scarce tax payers resources would be to either buy out the old hydrotherapy facility on the Cregg campus or a green field construction of an appropriate new bespoke hydrotherapy facility to serve those in need? and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy MacSharry

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 Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth, for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position in Community Healthcare Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan and Sligo (CH CDLMS).

CH CDLMS Disability Services management met with the Head of Operations for Rosses Punto on July 16th, 2024, in order to progress negotiations regarding re-opening the hydrotherapy pool. Rosses Punto have agreed, in principle, to re-open the hydrotherapy pool for an interim period of six months. A Business Case Proposal with these updated costings has been submitted to the Disability Services Manager Sligo Leitrim. CH CDLMS Disability Services cannot meet the cost from within its existing allocated budget and funding will need to be sought as per the national budgetary allocation process should this be decided by senior management.

Rosses Punto had a number of queries pertaining to the role of the pool attendant, insurance/liability responsibilities, responses required should incidents such as vomiting/soiling occur in the hydrotherapy pool. The Sligo Leitrim Disability Services Manager has responded to these queries.

Sligo Leitrim Disability Services management has also engaged with other HSE Services, namely Primary Care Services, Older Persons Services and Mental Health Services regarding their requirement to access a hydrotherapy facility in Sligo. These services do not have a demand for hydrotherapy services.



Pending senior HSE management position, scoping of need, funding allocation and in consultation with the HSE Estates Department, further decisions in respect of the hydrotherapy service being delivered by Rosses Punto are to be agreed.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edel Quinn', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Edel Quinn
Head of Service Disability CH CDLMS
Ceann na Seirbhíse Míchumas
Eagraíocht Chúram Sláinte Limistéar CDLMS