

7th August 2024

Deputy Danny Healy-Rae,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 32389/24

“To ask the Minister for Health the HSE's plans for a hospital (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Details supplied: What do the HSE intend to do with the District Hospital and St Columbanus Killarney once the new Community hospital is opened in Killarney.

PQ ref 32393/24

“To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE will consider the Columbanus Community Hospital and the District Hospital Killarney for minor injury clinics and day residential and respite services which are badly needed in the Killarney area, given that when the new Community Hospital opens these buildings will be available; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

As you will be aware these buildings are still in use as residential facilities and are still home to a large number of residents. Once the new Community Nursing Unit, which is currently being delivered nearby through Public Private Partnership, is complete and ready for occupancy, the residents will transfer to the new facility.

The HSE South West is reviewing its current and predicted accommodation needs in the Killarney area. This review is being carried out a population based service planning approach and plan for the assessed demographic needs of the population over the next 10 – 20 years. The outcome of this review will significantly influence the future use of the current St. Columbanus/Killarney Community Hospital campus. All options, including those outlined in your question, will be considered for the future use of the campus.

Yours sincerely,



Tess O'Donovan
Chief Officer