



**Head of Service for Older Persons  
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**

Health Service Executive  
Caha House, Business & Technology Park  
Model Farm Road  
Cork Eircode: T12 XHT4

**Cúram Sláinte Pobail - Corcaigh & Ciarraí**  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Teach Caha, Párc Ghnó & Teicneolaíochta  
Bóthar na Modh Feirme, Corcaigh  
**Tel: 021 4923854**

6<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Deputy Danny Healy-Rae. T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 32744/24**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE will provide the necessary funding to a nursing home (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter”.**

**Details Supplied:**

**“To ask the Minister and the HSE to provide the necessary funding so that the vacant Cherry Lodge Mill Road Killarney could be used for long term residential care”.**

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae,

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.

HSE Cork Kerry Community Healthcare has no strategic plans to purchase the Cherry Lodge property at this time. In respect of the further development of public residential care for older people in Killarney, bed capacity for older persons in the region will be enhanced by delivery of the new Community Nursing Unit which is currently under construction in Killarney. This unit will replace the current services provided in St Columbanus Home and the District Hospital and will contain 130 beds, comprised of rehabilitation, long term care, community support and dementia-specific beds.

The Government’s policy goal is to deliver a model of integrated, older persons' health and social care services across the care continuum in line with the majority of our older population clearly indicating their wish to age in place, in their own homes, for as long as possible. Sláintecare’s vision encompasses older people receiving the right care, in the right place, and the right time so that they can live in dignity and independence in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

I trust this clarifies the position and if you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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Jackie Daly  
Head of Service for Older Persons

