



**Cúram Sláinte  
Phobail, Iarthar**  
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,  
Maighéo agus Ros Comáin

**Community  
Healthcare West**  
serving Galway, Mayo  
and Roscommon

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02<sup>nd</sup> July 2024

**Mairéad Farrell, TD**  
**Leinster House**  
**Kildare Street**  
**Dublin 2**

PQ ref 22186/24

*\*To ask the Minister for Health if there are any plans to close the Galway training centre in Merlin Park Hospital or to reduce its hours or functions; and if he will make a statement on the matter\**

Dear Deputy Farrell,

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;

Please be advised that Community Healthcare West (CHW) Mental Health Services (MHS), Social Inclusion Project (SIP) is currently underway across all of CHW MHS Training Centre's. The Project Lead is currently assessing individuals in all our Training Centre's through the PartNA clinical assessment. This SIP initiative supports Mental Health Service Users (SUs) by helping them identify activities and roles that are meaningful to their recovery journey. This information then aids CHW at individual, service, and organisational levels in assisting SUs to achieve their goals.

A multi-stakeholder SIP working group, consisting of CHW operational staff and SU representatives, collaborates with the SIP Project Manager to develop a framework that supports this SU-centred process. The reasons for the change are to align MH Day Services with current best practices, support SUs in engaging in meaningful activities, promote collaborative work across CHW, and assist SUs in achieving valued lives. The impact on staff includes acquiring new skills, recognition for innovative practices, adherence to standard operating procedures for clinical governance and risk management, and training opportunities aligned with SU needs.

CHW MHS do not have any plans to close the Galway Training Centre in Merlin Park or to reduce its hours or functions.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charlie Meehan', enclosed within a light grey rectangular box.

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**Charlie Meehan**  
**Head of Mental Health Services**  
**Community Healthcare West**