



Head of Service for Older Persons
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Health Service Executive
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7th October 2024

Deputy Patricia Ryan, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann
Dublin 2

PQ ref 39267/24

“To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE will undertake necessary actions to ensure fire safety for residents in a nursing home (details supplied) in the interim period, to ensure residents' safety”.

Details Supplied: With regard to Ocean View Nursing Home in Camp, Co. Kerry

Dear Deputy Ryan,

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.

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has become the temporary registered provider for continuing services at Ocean View Living Camp Nursing Home, in line with the provisions of Section 64 of the Health Act 2007, from 11th September 2024. The HSE does not own Ocean View and is currently supporting its operation on a specific and limited basis as set out under Section 64, which is to identify alternative arrangements as soon as practicable. Ensuring the welfare and safety of residents, their families and staff is our key focus.

We recognise that the Health Information and Quality Authority's (HIQA) decision to cancel the registration of Ocean View Care Home Camp Ltd has been distressing for the residents, families and staff within the home. Since the HSE became the temporary provider of care at Ocean Living Camp, we have prioritised the safety, welfare and wellbeing of residents and this remains our paramount concern. A HSE team is on-site every day as we are committed to keeping residents, families and staff updated on this evolving situation. SAGE Advocacy is available to provide independent support and guidance. We also continue to engage with HIQA and the owners of Ocean View Living Camp.

The HSE has duties as provider of last resort under Section 64 the Health Act 2007 but it is important to note that the HSE is an interim provider of the service only. The HSE is seeking to provide safe care to residents against a background of serious concerns about fire safety at the home. We have taken urgent actions to address these risks including funding of a Fire Marshall to be on-site 24/7. Additionally, we have reduced the use of the temporary kitchen in the building so that we can reduce the risk of a fire. This means that main meals during the day will be delivered from external caterers. We have taken these urgent actions to ensure the safety of residents and staff at Ocean View Living Camp.

However, it should be noted that, as the HSE does not own the building which houses Ocean View nursing home, the HSE has no legal right to utilise public money to carry out any significant works



to a building which is still owned by a private company and which the owner of the building may have plans for. The HSE role in managing the care home is a limited one.

I recognise that Ocean View Living Camp has been a very happy home for its residents. Our shared interest is the safety and wellbeing of all residents. The HSE will continue to support them, their families and staff during this difficult time. The HSE team on site is committed to continue working closely with each resident individually.

I trust this clarifies the position. All stakeholders will be kept updated as this situation evolves and options are examined. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Jackie Daly
Head of Service for Older Persons