



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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30th November 2020,
Deputy Róisín Shortall,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ Number 36080/20

To ask the Minister for Health if issues raised in the media (details supplied) in relation to the new National Forensic Mental Services Hospital, Portrane will receive a response; if an advice notice will be provided to local residents in relation to possible disruptions; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<https://m.independent.ie/irish-news/news/con-air-style-plan-to-transfer-violent-inmates-will-shut-m50-39719556.html>

Dear Deputy Shortall,

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.

There are no plans to close the M50 in order to facilitate the national forensic service and such a suggestion has never been a consideration. The issue raised in this article was referred to HSE Comms to follow-up directly with the Sunday Independent. The HSE Press Office contacted the journalists at the time which resulted in a change to the headline.

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

Yours sincerely,

Dr Sinead Reynolds
General Manager Mental Health Services