



Mr Paul Reid

CEO, Health Service Executive

Dr Steevens' Hospital,

Dublin 8.

CC. Ms A O'Connor, COO and Dr Colm Henry, CCO

11th November 2021

Dear Mr Reid,

The Faculty of Psychiatry of Learning Disability acknowledges the significant operational difficulties caused by Covid 19 pandemic restrictions to day services, respite services and other social support services for adults with intellectual disability.

As pandemic restrictions are lifted the Faculty calls for all pre-pandemic day services, respite services and other support services for adults with intellectual disability to be fully reinstated. Our consultant members will continue to work collaboratively with service providers to ensure efficient and timely full re-opening of all to ensure our patients receive the best possible care and support. When these essential services are lacking and /or not open fully Faculty members, in their clinical work, have observed negative impacts on the mental health of adults with intellectual disability and their family carers.

In the future, the Faculty recommends these services and the staff who staff them are considered essential services by the State and its agencies.

Thank you for your continued support to this very vulnerable group in very difficult circumstances.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Maeve Moran

Chair, Faculty of Psychiatry of Learning Disability

Dr William Flannery

President