



Talbot Group

Dignity Respect Kindness Engagement

Talbot Group
Redwood
Stamullen
Co. Meath
01 8412660
www.talbotgroup.ie

Date: 6th January 2021

Re: Message from the CEO – Coronavirus and Government Restrictions

Dear Resident, Family Member and Staff

I am writing to update you about the current situation of Coronavirus and to outline the actions we are taking as an organisation to prevent it from spreading. As you are aware the Government placed the country in level 5 restrictions from 27th December 2020 until the 31st January 2021.

The following arrangements are aimed at ensuring the potential spread of COVID-19 is minimised during this period. The details for home visits and visits to our services during level 5 restrictions are outlined below.

1. Home leave

From the 27th December all home leave is suspended. Should families wish to take their family member home during the restrictions they must commit to keeping them at home until the restrictions are lifted and upon receipt of a negative COVID-19 test.

In **exceptional** circumstances home leave can be considered however this must be in consultation with the PIC and is subject to an individual risk assessment.

Visits

During Level 5 the following arrangements will be apply:

Level 5	Visiting
All Services Visits During level 5 Where there is no outbreak of Covid- 19	In the interest of our residents, we would like to limit visits where possible during level 5 restrictions. All visits are subject to individual risk assessments under level 5 restrictions and include the following: There can be garden visiting up to a maximum period of 1 hour whilst utilising PPE and implementing social distancing at all times.

Additionally, on critical and compassionate grounds, there can be one-hour room visits (residents' individual bedroom or one allocated room with additional infection control measures in place). Two dedicated visitors must be identified, and up to one visit by one person per week or (2 people if from same household).

All visits are to be planned and organised in advance with the PIC. The implemented visiting procedures and safety protocols in place in each service will continue to be implemented with all visitors.

To ensure safe visits can take place all visitors will be expected to follow the house specific visiting protocols in place and all visits must be organised in advance with the PIC of the service.

Should there be an outbreak of COVID in any of our services a risk assessment will take place, and this may result in changes to the above visiting arrangements.

The above guidelines are in line with the HSE COVID-19 Guidance on visits to and from residential facilities for people with disabilities V1.1 17.12.2020, see appendix 1 attached.

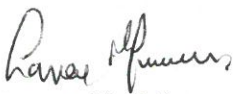
Acknowledgement and Reassurance

We will continue to be creative in all our efforts to maintain important family connections and communications during this time. This includes but is not exhaustive to facilitating video calls, telephone calls, sending pictures, writing letters/emails and providing regular updates to families.

We assure you that our Steering Group continue to monitor the evolving situation on an ongoing basis with all relevant authorities and we will amend and adapt our protocols to reflect national guidance and any changes as required.

We wish to thank you for your ongoing understanding, collaboration, and patience at this time and I wish you and your family a very Happy and Safe New Year.

Yours sincerely



Ms. Laverne McGuinness
Chief Executive Officer