



COMHAIRLE CONTAE
CHEATHARLACH

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

Oifigí an Chontae,
Bóthar Átha Í,
Ceatharlach, R93E7R7

County Buildings,
Athy Road,
Carlow, R93E7R7

T: 059 9170300

E: See carlow.ie/contact-us

W: carlow.ie

17th September 2026.

To Each Local Authority

A Chara,

At the September meeting of Carlow County Council, the Members passed the following Motion:

"That Carlow County Council calls on the Minister for Health and the Health Service Executive to urgently review and reform the current admission policy for patients presenting at Emergency Departments with suicidal ideation or acute mental health distress.

Specifically, Council calls for:

The establishment of dedicated mental health assessment and admission pathways, separate from general A&E services, for individuals presenting in mental health crisis or expressing suicidal ideation.

A mandatory requirement that mental health records be immediately accessed and reviewed when a patient presents with a history of mental health issues or expresses suicidal thoughts.

Continuous monitoring and observation of any patient identified as at risk of self-harm or suicide while in hospital care.

Additional resourcing and training for frontline staff to ensure trauma-informed care for those in mental health crisis.

This Council recognises the profound and ongoing trauma experienced by families who have lost loved ones to suicide following inadequate support in healthcare settings. We stand with bereaved families in calling for systemic change to ensure no individual in crisis is left waiting, in an Emergency Department.

The Council further requests that a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister for Health, the HSE National Director of Mental Health, and all local authorities in Ireland."

Mise, le meas.

R. Byrne,
**Senior Executive Officer/
Meetings Administrator.**