Seirbhís Sláinte | Building a Níos Fearr | Better Health á Forbairt | Service

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12th February 2019

Ms Niamh Smyth T.D., Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 6769/19 - Respite, Cootehill - GMPQ8079

To ask the Minister for Health if he will address the respite crisis being experienced for dozens of families at a centre (details supplied); the position regarding the latest reports of an oil leak here; when the centre will be open again and return to full service; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Smyth,

I refer to your recent correspondence in relation to Annalee View Respite Services, Cootehill, Co Cavan. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

HSE Disability Services identified a problem with the oil tank at Annalee View Respite Centre. On foot of this discovery, AM Environmental were contracted to complete a site visit. Following completion of same the HSE were advised to vacate Annalee View Respite Centre with immediate effect.

A site investigation commenced on Wednesday 6th February 2019 and will be completed on 13th February 2019 - the results from which will take 2 weeks. This will establish the extent of the contaminated soil, the leaks and will give an idea of the size of the works required and how long it will take to rectify the situation.

Cavan Monaghan Disability Services are actively seeking an alternative premise in order to continue the provision of residential respite services. This endeavour will target suitable vacant rental or lease properties in the Cavan Monaghan area. We shall continue to liaise with families and staff in relation to this matter. Affected families can contact the Disability Manager and her team regarding updated information and queries.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

General Manager, Disability Services CHO 1 Bainisteoir Ginearálta, Seirbhisi Michumais ESP 1