



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
31-33 Sráid Chaitríona, Luimneach.

Office of the Head of Operations,
Disability Services/Community Operations,
31-33 Catherine Street, Limerick.

T: 00353 (0) 61 483369

Suíomh Gréasáin/Website: <http://www.hse.ie>

5th July 2019

Deputy Mattie McGrath
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
e-mail: mattie.mcgrath@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy McGrath,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary questions, which were submitted to this department for response.

PQ 26261/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of respite hours provided for adults with an intellectual disability in County Tipperary in each of the years 2008 to 2018, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 26262/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of respite hours provided for children with an intellectual disability in County Tipperary in each of the years 2008 to 2018, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 26263/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of respite hours provided for adolescents with an intellectual disability in County Tipperary in each of the years 2008 to 2018, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter

HSE Response

The HSE and its funded Agencies provide respite care to children and adults with disabilities. Respite can occur in a variety of settings for various lengths of time, depending on the needs of the individual service user, the family and according to available resources. Respite is not always centre-based and can be provided in a number of ways, e.g. Centre based; In-Home; Home-to-Home; Family Support, etc. As a vital part of the continuum of services for families, respite potentially helps prevent out-of-home full-time residential placements, preserves the family unit, and supports family stability with the service users at the centre.

The HSE is very much aware of the importance of respite service provision for the families of both children and adults with disabilities, including the impact the absence of respite service provision can have on other services.

Please see table below outlining the number of overnight respite hours and day only respite sessions accessed by children and adults with a disability from 2014 to 2018. Please note that Data definitions and



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HSE Administrative areas have been refined over the last number of years and therefore it is difficult to provide accurate comparisons in relation to the provision of respite services, particularly from 2008 to 2013. North Tipperary comes under the remit of CHO Area 3 and South Tipperary comes under CHO Area 5 – both of these areas are highlighted in yellow.

Please also note that the figures below for respite services include both adults and children. There is no distinction made in the gathered data between children and adults.

		No. of overnights (with or without day respite) accessed by people with a disability					No of day only respite sessions accessed by people with a disability				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018		2015	2016	2017	2018
National Total		180,901	184,891	175,555	158,296	158,368		32,519	32,314	32,688	35,876
CHO 1	Total	11,571	11,701	11,065	10,215	9,368		5,526	5,371	4,073	4,682
CHO 2	Total	32,248	38,537	39,536	38,548	37,143		6,824	5,969	6,898	5,963
CHO 3	Total	12,803	13,542	14,585	13,873	14,507		4,672	5,532	5,755	5,411
CHO 3	Clare	2,166	3,415	3,612	3,545	3862		1,738	2,678	3,517	3223
CHO 3	Limerick	4,758	4,352	5,068	4,266	2669		894	1,386	894	1081
CHO 3	North Tipperary East Limerick	5,879	5,775	5,905	6,062	7,976		2,040	1,468	1,344	1107
CHO 4	Total	26,590	28,486	24,666	19,697	22,217		2,058	2,590	2,449	2883
CHO 5	Total	15,299	16,084	13,155	10,386	11,414		1,201	1,926	2,227	1565
CHO 5	Carlow Kilkenny	3,612	4,521	3,219	2,251	1721		71	479	414	233
CHO 5	South Tipperary	3,699	3,613	3,244	2,864	2667		565	755	1,469	636
CHO 5	Waterford	4,117	4,305	4,193	3,947	3999		168	224	223	418
CHO 5	Wexford	3,871	3,645	2,499	1,324	3027		397	468	121	278
CHO 6	Total	16,806	14,453	12,873	10,797	10,306		2,715	2,083	1,402	2925
CHO 7	Total	26,082	24,832	25,696	22,878	18,934		5,017	5,469	5,250	6,444
CHO 8	Total	17,637	14,830	17,965	16,312	17,810		916	1,076	1,334	1007
CHO 9	Total	21,865	22,426	16,014	15,590	16,669		3,590	2,298	3,300	4996

The need for increased respite facilities is acknowledged and the HSE continues to work with agencies to explore various ways of responding to this need.

Targeted actions to improve supply

In 2018, the Minister for Health announced an additional €10 million for the HSE, specifically to enhance respite care in the disability sector. In accordance with the National Service Plan for 2018, the HSE committed to providing:

- An additional respite house in each of the nine CHO areas which will support 450 individuals in a full year and 251 in 2018 (€5m).
- Three additional respite houses in the greater Dublin areas (CHOs 7, 8 and 9) to support a further 225 individuals in a full year and 143 in 2018 (€3m).
- Alternative models of respite to support 250 individuals with disability (€2m).

The funding provided for the equivalent of 12 new houses, 1 in each CHO, and 3 in the Greater Dublin area. Twelve new or additional centre-based respite centres have opened to date, resulting in an additional 6,455 bed nights delivered to 763 people.

Community-Based, alternative respite projects, including Summer Camps, evening and Saturday clubs, also took place in 2018, delivering 15,144 'in home' Respite Hours, to 400 users and 1,296 Saturday/Evening/Holiday Club 'sessions' to 1,500 people. The HSE is fully committed to maintaining the same level of service this year as in 2018. The programme to deliver on the €10 million additional funding will continue in 2019 and remains a high priority for the HSE.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Cathal Morgan,
Head of Operations - Disability Services,
Community Operations



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