



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Social Care
South East Community Healthcare
c/o Community Care Headquarters
James' Green

Kilkenny

Telephone 353 56 7784600
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4th June 2019

Mr. Pat Deering
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 22309/19

To ask the Minister for Health when the respite house that was recently refurbished in Tullow, County Carlow will be available for use; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Deering

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

The new Children's Respite service, Kilcar House in Tullow is due to open in 2019 under Enable Ireland management. Earlier this year, Enable Ireland circulated a timeline to parents based on their understanding that the works on the house would be completed by the end of February 2019 and that Enable Ireland would then take possession of the house. Unfortunately, due to some unforeseen difficulties, there has been a delay on this timeframe. However, I can advise you that works on the house are almost complete, with the only outstanding work being in relation to the front boundary which requires a fence to be erected to ensure the safety of the children. This work is currently underway. The head of terms for the lease agreement have been agreed and signed by Enable Ireland and the keys will be handed over to Enable Ireland this week.

Enable Ireland are continuing to work closely with the HSE and are currently preparing the house and associated documentation for the HIQA inspection required prior to commencement of overnight services. Day respite will commence at the house in advance of the overnight respite.

A family forum is now in place, which provides families with an opportunity for consultation and exchange of information, the first meeting was held on the 23rd of February 2019 with minutes circulated and the next meeting is scheduled for the 10th of June 2019. Once opened,

Enable Ireland propose to offer a range of services to children in the Carlow/ Kilkenny area. Services will begin on a phased basis.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'P McEvoy', written in black ink.

Patricia McEvoy
General Manager, Disability Service- South East Community Healthcare