



Ceann na Seirbhíse Míchumas
Eagraíocht Chúram Sláinte Limistéar 1
(An Cabhán, Dún na nGall, Liatroim, Muineachán & Sligeach)
Áras Isacc Butt, Bealach Féich, Tír Chonaill F93 YV9R
Head of Service Disability
HSE Area 1 (Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan & Sligo)
The Isacc Butt Building , Ballybofey
Co. Donegal F93 YV9R
Tel+353(0)74 9189028 Email: HOSDISABILITY.CHO1@hse.ie

4th November 2020

Deputy Pearse Doherty
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ ref 33080/20

To ask the Minister for Health when respite services for both children and adults with intellectual disabilities in the Inishowen area of County Donegal will be resumed; if alternative supports are available during the suspension of respite services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Doherty

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

I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Riverwalk Respite House has remained operational throughout Covid restrictions and continues to provide emergency respite services for two adults from the Inishowen area. This emergency arrangement has impacted on the Intellectual Disability Service's ability to continue respite services as previously delivered to the wider population of Inishowen. Staff have identified a number of persons who are compatible with the people who are currently receiving emergency respite and those identified are availing of the one remaining bed in Riverwalk.

The ID Service has completed a prioritisation assessment using the National Framework for the Resumption of Respite Services. Those prioritised for respite will be allocated it in alternative respite centres in Co Donegal if this is suitable, or they will be offered a home support package to provide respite within their own homes if they wish to avail of it. This matter is being kept under constant review.

I trust that this is of assistance but please do not hesitate to contact me if you require anything further.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edel Quinn'.

Edel Quinn
Head of Service Disability CHO1
Ceann na Seirbhíse Míchumas
Eagraíocht Chúram Sláinte Limistéar 1