



Ceann Seirbhíse, Míchumais,  
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin  
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail  
Teach Darach, Páirc na Milaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

Head of Service, Disabilities  
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare  
Oak House, Millennium Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 KDC2  
Email: cho7.pqreps@hse.ie Tel: (045) 882 597

22 September 2020

Bernard J Durkan TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**Ref: PQ 21653/20**

“To ask the Minister for Health when adult day services in County Kildare will resume in view of the fact that such supports are highly required; if the same level of hours assigned prior to Covid-19 will be maintained in view of the extreme urgency of the matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

-Bernard J. Durkan

---

**Dear Deputy Durkan**

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The resumption of day services for adults with disabilities recommenced in August 2020. The HSE have developed a framework for the resumption of adult day services to support this. The HSE published an online portal to provide up-to-date information regarding the status of each day service location in the context of opening dates for each location and details of the capacity relevant to each location. (Link to portal below)

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/disability/newdirections/resumption-of-adult-day-services-for-adults-with-disabilities.html>

A national New Directions sub group has prepared a framework to support service providers as they resume services. This group was representative of service users and families, service providers and the HSE. The aim of this framework is to ensure the safety of people who use these services and our staff, service providers must follow public health guidance. The number of people that can be supported in each service location will depend on the size of the location as social distancing rules must be followed. Service providers have contacted families directly and discussed plans for returning. All actions arising from the day service resumption plan are underpinned by COVID-19 guidance and all decisions taken must be COVID proofed.

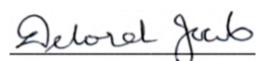
Whilst the service has to deal with the reality of COVID-19, the quantum and type of service supports will undergo a significant change. This situation will provide many opportunities in progressing the individualised supports recommended in the policy New Directions and new ways of working to support the implementation of that policy. It will also provide many challenges in dealing

with the expectation of service responses particularly for service users and families that are used to the traditional model of delivery which is centred around day service locations.

The HSE has collated information from all service providers in respect of the additional resources required to provide a greater quantum of service to service users and families than that which can be delivered within existing resources. This request for additional resources has been escalated to Senior Management of the HSE and will form part of the Winter Planning process that the HSE is currently engaged in. We await the outcome of that process and will engage with the provider sector when any additional resource is agreed. This funding bid is to enhance the amount of service that people are currently receiving but it is not to fully restore a 30 hour per week day service. In regard to the resumption of full time services - we will have to act in accordance with public health advice at all times so it is not possible to predict when services can be restored to pre COVID levels.

I trust the above information is of use to you and if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



**Deborah Jacob**

**Head of Service for Disabilities, CHO7.**