



20th October 2021

Ms Mary Lou McDonald TD
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RE: PQ ref 48410/21

'To ask the Minister for Health the respite care that is available in CHO 9 for persons with ASD; and if he will make a statement on the matter.'

Dear Deputy McDonald,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) Disability Services commissions respite services for children and adults from Section 38 and Section 39 organisations as well as provider providers.

CHO DNCC funds respite services for children some of whom have Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) through the provision of thirty-three overnight respite beds which are all registered with the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA). Tusla also provides overnight respite for children living within CHO DNCC which is not specific to ASD.

In addition, there is alternative respite care options available, such as afterschool, school holidays, and evening and weekend support. Home care packages delivered to children and young people also have a respite component.

There are thirty-eight overnight respite beds available to adults with a disability which includes ASD. Thirty-three of these overnight beds are registered with HIQA. There is alternative non-residential respite support available to adults with ASD through the provision of home supports. CHO DNCC also contracts Nursing Home beds to provide respite care for adults with medical management issues which may or may not include ASD.

Children and adults with a disability who live within the area of CHO DNCC have also availed of respite care outside of the geographical area of CHO DNCC by agreement of the Health Service Executive.

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

Yours sincerely,

Ms Olive Hanley
Head of Service for Disability