

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

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Dail Eireann  
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Office of the General Manager  
Disability Social Care  
Community Healthcare West,  
Old Health Centre, Vicar St., Tuam, Co. Galway.  
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**PQ 51835/21**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the residential care services that are available in County Mayo for adults with autism, intellectual and or physical disabilities or other special needs; the waiting time to access these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter”.**

Dear Deputy Conway Walsh

I refer to PQ 51835/21 uploaded on the PAD System on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021 and due for response on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Health concerning “the residential care services that are available in County Mayo for adults with autism, intellectual and or physical disabilities or other special needs; the waiting time to access these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter”. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

I wish to advise that residential care services in County Mayo are mainly provided by our agency partner, Western Care Association and a variety of smaller agency partners such as Cheshire Ireland Mayo, Communicare, RehabCare Mayo and Praxis etc. Community Healthcare West (CHW) also supports 59 people in its own residential service, Mayo Community Living. There are 50 people waitlisted in County Mayo for full time residential placements, however, all agencies are currently experiencing accommodation, budget and staffing deficits.

CHW Disability Services receives a large volume of applications for residential funding on an on-going basis. All requests for funding are recorded and managed through a system called the Disability Support Management Application Tool (DSMAT) which serves to ensure that the application process is equitable and transparent. This involves prioritisation of applications for residential placements based on funding available and the complexity of the cases presenting. Currently, the funding available within CHW allows for the management of crisis cases and we are acutely aware of the need for additional supports but unfortunately the demand for same far exceeds the funding received. Residential placements are allocated on the basis of need rather than on waiting times as circumstances can change such as the incapacity or death of a main carer or deterioration in health of the applicant etc. Additional funding was received in 2021 for four new planned residential placements and four new emergency residential placements across CHW and these were allocated based on clinical need.

I trust that this response has clarified the matters that you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely

*pp Maura Monaghan*

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Alma Joyce  
General Manager  
Disability Services  
Community Healthcare West