

20th December 2022

Catherine Connolly TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ ref 61383/22 – Number of respite beds currently operational in Galway City and County

Dear Deputy Connolly

I refer to PQ ref 61383/22 uploaded on the PAD System on the 5th December 2022, due for response on the 20th December in relation the number of respite beds currently operational in Galway City and County; the locations of same; the timeline for when respite provision in Galway City and County will be restored to pre-pandemic levels. The following response outlines the current position.

The following are the number of respite beds operational and location:

- Merlin Park is the primary designated respite centre for Co Galway and has thirteen respite beds available.
- Respite is also provided in Clifden District Hospital which currently has 12 beds that are used for step down convalescence and respite with availability to the service limited due to staffing issues.

There is a significant demand for respite during peak holiday periods but once this period has passed the demand decreases significantly and not all available respite beds in 2022 have been taken up.

I trust this response addresses the matter you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely



Siobhan O'Sullivan
General Manager
Older People's Services
Community Healthcare West

