



**Office of the Head of Service  
Disability Services**

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Mr. Johnny Mythen T.D.  
Dail Eireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

Date: 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**PQ 34325/22**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of respite beds operational in County Wexford in each of the years 2017 to 2021 and to date in 2022, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**PQ 34324/22**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons who are currently on waiting lists for respite in County Wexford; the number of those that have been waiting less than 6 months, more than 6 months and more than 12 months in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**PQ 34322/22**

**To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide details of respite centres that are provided in CHO5 by county; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Mythen,

*I have reviewed the matter and the following Composite Response is the current position.*

South East Community Healthcare delivers a wide range of disability services including respite to children and adults residing in the South East. As part of this service provision, South East Community Healthcare is committed to ensuring an equitable and fair approach to service delivery in line with budget allocation. This includes the annual delivery of disability services and the planning of services into the future.

As part of the ongoing investment in Respite Services from the HSE National Service Plan 2021, South East Community Healthcare delivered additional respite supports including respite at a new

adult house in Carlow, which opened in May 2022 and was commissioned through Section 39 provider. Referrals for this service are accepted from all across the South East for adults with an Intellectual Disability (ID) and Autism Spectrum Diagnosis (ASD).

Respite may occur in a variety of settings for any length of time, depending on the needs of the individual, their family and available resources. It is not always centre-based and may be provided in a number of ways, e.g. Out-of-Home; In-Home; Home Support; seasonal camps, Saturday clubs and Family Support et cetera. This is dependent on client need and services available within current resources. The below information is based on overnight respite in residential services.

	<b><i>Number of bed nights provided per annum</i></b>
2017 Number of nights provided per year	2128
2018 Number of nights provided per year	2390
2019 Number of nights provided per year	2808
2020 Number of nights provided per year	1736
2021 Number of nights provided per year	1911
Number of adults receiving respite 2022	227

In both Adult respite and Childrens Respite allocations and referrals there are committee meetings with providers and HSE Disability Services Team to review and advise regarding service delivery.

**Waiting List for Wexford Adult’s Overnight Respite Services:**

Adult allocations are indicated as above in service responses, this also includes the adults who are in the process of transitioning to a respite service. All of the providers support respite in community houses with a minimum of 2-4 participants at any one time. For individuals who require individual respite services this is not provided within these services and bespoke arrangements are requested.

**Waiting List for Wexford Children’s Overnight Respite Services:**

All of the providers enable respite in community houses with a minimum of 2-4 participants at any one time. For individuals who require individual respite services this is not provided within these services and bespoke arrangements are requested.

Whilst chronology is considered, when reviewing applications prioritisation, compatibility and respite request is considered. Examples of other considerations are used but not limited to allocations of overnight respite include children with: complex nursing needs, children who do not sleep, children at risk of foster placement breakdown or families with siblings with disabilities. Currently in Wexford the children’s total respite waiting list has 37 requests submitted including requests for clubs, camps and overnight respite. Of these requests 10 families have identified overnight respite as their preferred option. There are three children who require bespoke respite whose needs cannot be met in the community residential respite services.

<b>Waiting Times</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>No Waiting</b>
More than 12 months	Waiting list referrals accepted by Family Support Allocation Team	6
More than 6 months	Waiting list referrals accepted by Family Support Allocation Team	16
Less than 6 months	Waiting list referrals accepted by Family Support Allocation Team	15

Due to the additional funding available through the National Service Plan for 2022 and ongoing there are five additional placements for allocation for overnight children's respite and for three afterschool children's respite placements.

### **Carlow/Kilkenny**

<b>Service Provider</b>	<b>Number of adults &amp; Children receiving respite 2022</b>
Beam - provide alternative respite to over 35 adults on an ongoing basis.	1 adult – receiving 2 nights respite per week ongoing 1 adult – receiving 1 night's respite in own home every 2 <sup>nd</sup> week.
Delta – New Regional Respite Service	58 Children
Enable - Kilcar House is a dedicated respite service that provides 4 overnight respite beds to children	49 Children

### **South Tipperary**

<b>Service Provider</b>	<b>Number of adults &amp; Children receiving respite 2022</b>
Brothers of Charity South Tipperary.	68 Adults and 12 Children
Northfields- Childrens respite	40 Children
Carriglea Cairde Services- White Strand Respite Services	48 Adults

### **Waterford**

<b>Service Provider</b>	<b>Number of adults &amp; Children receiving respite 2022</b>
WIDA – Robin Hill	8 Adults
WIDA – Robin Hill	9 Children

**Wexford Cumas Adults** (No children's respite)

<b>Service Provider</b>	<b>Number of adults &amp; Children receiving respite 2022</b>
Cumas New Ross (Adults)	9
St. Aidan's Gorey (Adults)	55
St. Aidans Gorey (Children)	16
Ard Aoibhinn (Adults)	59
Ard Aoibhinn (Children)	36

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



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**Ms. Karen Fitzgerald**  
**A/Head of Disability Services CH05**  
**South East Community Healthcare**