

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse do Dhaoine Faoi Mhíchumas

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Ms Louise O'Reilly, TD Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Email: louise.oreilly@oireachtas.ie

PQ ref 26203/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of respite beds that are available for adults with intellectual disabilities in the Fingal area; the number that are occupied at present; if and when additional spaces will be made available for the remainder of 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter. **Louise O'Reilly TD**

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you with information 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 adults from Section 38 and Section 39 organisations as well as private providers.

There are currently 41 overnight respite beds available to adults with a disability in CHODNCC. These beds are open to those with an Intellectual Disability. CHO DNCC Disability Services works closely with all respite care providers to ensure that respite beds are used to maximum capacity. However, it is sometimes necessary to reduce capacity within a unit to ensure the safeguarding of service users with high support and complex needs. In some cases, where suitable respite supports are not available within CHO DNCC, adults with a disability may also avail of respite care outside of the geographical area by agreement with CHO DNCC Disability Services.

Alongside the above, there are alternative non-residential respite options available through the provision of home supports.

CHO DNCC Disability Services are actively working to establish additional respite care for adults. While there is no confirmation of any additional Adult Respite capacity to due to open in CHO DNCC, we will continue to liaise with relevant bodies to expand our existing service provision.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Olive Hanley Head of Service for Disability