



**Cúram Sláinte  
Phobail, Iarthar**  
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,  
Maighéo agus Ros Comáin

**Community  
Healthcare West**  
serving Galway, Mayo  
and Roscommon

Head of Older People's Services

Community Healthcare West, Block B, Merlin Park  
University Hospital, Galway H91 N973

Tel: 091 775751 Email: [older.personschw@hse.ie](mailto:older.personschw@hse.ie)

Ceannasaí Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta

Cúram Sláinte Phobail, Iarthar, Bloc B, Campas Ospidéal  
Páirc Mheirlinne, Gaillimh H91 N973

T: 091 775751 R: [older.personschw@hse.ie](mailto:older.personschw@hse.ie)

1<sup>st</sup> November 2022

Catherine Connolly TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**Ref: PQ ref 52324/22 – Merlin Park Community Nursing Unit – Respite Beds**

Dear Deputy Connolly

I refer to PQ ref 52324/22 uploaded on the PAD System on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022, due for response on the 1<sup>st</sup> November in relation to the number of respite beds operational in Merlin Park Community Nursing Unit (CNU). The following response outlines the current position.

There are twelve respite beds available in Merlin Park Community Nursing Unit (CNU), however since the peak holiday period has passed the demand for respite beds has decreased and the full available capacity is not being taken up. During Race Week, August and Christmas there can be multiple demands for the same period of times. Merlin Park CNU make every effort to accommodate clients if respite beds are available at the time of request, there is a waiting list and agreed policy in place to provide equity of access.

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

Yours sincerely

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