



Oifig an Príomhoifigeach
Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tire,
An Lú, An Mhí

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,
Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin,
An Tulach Mhór, Co. Uíbh Fhailí.

Office of the Chief Officer
Community Health Organisation
Midlands Louth Meath

HSE,
Area Office, Arden Road,
Tullamore, Co Offaly

www.hse.ie
@hselive
@MLMCommHealth

t 057 9359787
e CHO8@hse.ie

25th May, 2023

Mr. Matt Carthy T.D
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question - 19571/23

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the amounts paid by the HSE to the Galro Centre, Kilbixy Paddocks, County Westmeath for the provision of weekend day-respite services for children with additional needs; the criteria and conditions of this funding; whether the centre remains entitled to exclude children from the service; whether a review will be conducted in this regard.

Dear Deputy Carthy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question. I have examined the matter and I outline the position as follows.

Children with a diagnosis of Moderate / Severe / Profound Intellectual Disability and / or autism are eligible for referral to Kilbixy Paddocks. The decision to refer children is based on a recommendation from the Children's Disability Network Team and is made on a prioritised basis. Following the referral, and in line with other respite providers GALRO services undertake an assessment to determine a child's suitability in terms of compatibility with other children in attendance and also the ability to maintain the health and safety of all children in attendance.

On occasion it is determined that a child's needs cannot continue to be met safely from within this group model of service without having a negative impact on them or their participation in and enjoyment of the activities. If / when this occurs alternative respite supports are explored.

At present capacity is outstripped by service demands and waiting lists are in place.

The following is a breakdown of the allocation to GALRO for Kilbixy Services from Laois / Offaly & Longford Westmeath for the provision of weekend day-respite services for children with additional needs.

Year	County	Funding Allocated
2022	Laois Offaly	€65,320
2023 (Jan-Mar)	Laois Offaly	€72,440
2022	Longford Westmeath	€61,580
2023 (Jan -Mar)	Longford Westmeath	€36,220



I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Broadbank'.

Carole Broadbank
Acting Chief Officer
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation