



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

Community
Healthcare West
serving Galway, Mayo
and Roscommon

Oifig an Bhainisteora Ginearálta
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais
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An Sean Ionad Sláinte, Sráid an Bhiocáire, Tuaim, Co. na
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Disability Social Care
Community Healthcare West,
Old Health Centre, Vicar St., Tuam, Co. Galway.
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5th May 2023

Mairead Farrell TD
Dail Eireann
Kildare St
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 19611/23

“To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on staffing issues for respite services provided through Ability West in Galway; when these services will be back in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Farrell

I refer to PQ/19611/23 uploaded to the PAD System on the 24th April 2023 and due for response on the 8th May 2023 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Health concerning “if he will provide an update on staffing issues for respite services provided through Ability West in Galway; when these services will be back in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter.” The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

I have been in contact with the Disability Services Manager for Galway who has advised that there is no confirmed date for the re-opening of respite services in Ability West as the situation with regard to staffing is ongoing despite alternatives being pursued. Like many health and social care providers, Ability West is experiencing significant staffing and recruitment issues across all service areas.

Ability West has assured us of their ongoing best efforts to identify a solution to the staffing challenge to provide this much needed respite support to the families that they support and the Disability Services Manager for Galway is meeting regularly with Ability West in this regard.

I trust that this response has clarified the matter that you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely

pp Maura Monaghan

Mary Owens
Acting General Manager
Disability Services
Community Healthcare West