



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta
Oibríochtaí Pobail
Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta

Office of the Assistant National Director –
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Services for Older People

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08th May 2023

Deputy Patricia Ryan TD,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Ryan,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this Department for response.

PQ 19650/23

To ask the Minister for Health if all respite beds have now reopened after the pandemic; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Within Residential Care Facilities for the Older Person short stay beds are categorised under a number of headings inclusive of Respite Beds; these beds are currently open.

The total number of beds within any short stay category inclusive of respite care can fluctuate up and down at any point of time to meet demand within a particular area.

Respite services can still be affected by Covid-19 outbreaks and facilities identified as being in outbreak by Public Health may have to close or limit admissions on a temporary basis. There may also be a requirement to designate short stay beds for isolation purposes in compliance with Public Health guidelines.

Yours sincerely,

Martina Duffy
General Manager
Long Term Care & Integration