

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse do Dhaoine Faoi Mhíchumas

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Mr Cian O'Callaghan, TD, Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Email: cian.ocallaghan@oireachtas.ie

PQ 32362/23 "To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth if he will take action to ensure that CHO9 is getting the day-only and overnight respite sessions it urgently needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter." **Cian O'Callaghan T.D**

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

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) currently have five Residential Respite Service providers (St. Michaels House, Avista, Talbot Group, Praxis Care and the Irish Wheelchair Association). The residential respite capacity in June 2023 was 32 child residential respite bed nights per night and 40 adult residential respite bed nights per night. This equates to 26,136 respite nights per year.

CHO DNCC have developed two children's alternative respites with Sánas Alternative Respite. Sanas Finglas opened in May 2022 with Sanas Balbriggan opening on the 1st of March 2023. These offer 234-day respite placements per week to children.

CHO DNCC are currently working with St. Pauls CFCC to develop an afterschool day respite service for children with ASD within the CHO. This is planned to open at the end of Q3 2023 pending recruitment of required staff.

We recognise how important respite supports are to the individuals who avail of them and their families. CHO DNCC are continuing to look at all options to increase capacity for both Adult and Children's respite services in the CHO over the coming years.

I trust this information clarifies this matter for you.

Yours sincerely,

Head of Service for Disability