

16th June 2023

Deputy Pádraig MacLochlainn
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ ref 27506/23

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth when River Walk House, Carndonagh, County Donegal will reopen to offer respite services to families in Inishowen, County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy MacLochlainn

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth for response.

I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

A new home has been located for the resident currently living in Riverwalk Respite House and extensive refurbishment of this property has been carried out to bring it up to the appropriate regulatory standard of compliance as outlined by the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA).

The position of Clinical Nurse Manager/Person in Charge for this residential accommodation has been accepted and the successful candidate has completed the required clearances with the HSE in order to take up the position. This candidate has also completed the process of registration of becoming a Person in Charge with HIQA which is required to register the home.

An expression of interest for two staff nurse positions has issued and one staff nurse has expressed interest in a position. This staff nurse will undertake the clearance process with HR and the second vacant staff nurse position is being re-issued as an expression of interest to the current Registered Nurse Intellectual Disability (RNID) and Registered General Nurse (RGN) panels and to the new nursing graduate panel to try to recruit to it.

The resident currently living in Riverwalk Respite House will move to the new residential accommodation once the registration process of the house with HIQA is completed and the required complement of staff is in place to provide a safe service for the resident. Riverwalk



Respite House will then be in a position to reopen respite services for people with disabilities living in the Inishowen area.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edel Quinn', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Edel Quinn
Head of Service Disability CH CDLMS
Ceann na Seirbhíse Míchumas
Eagraíocht Chúram Sláinte Limistéar CDLMS