



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

19<sup>th</sup> July, 2023

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

**Re: Parliamentary Question - 28026/23**

**To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 462 of 25 April 2023, the number of children that were referred to Kilbixy Paddocks for respite who were subsequently excluded from the service in each month since January 2020; the number in each month that had commenced the service before being excluded; the number from each month that were offered alternative respite supports that matched the hours and days provided in Kilbixy Paddocks; the average timeframe for this alternative to be provided, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter**

Dear Deputy Carthy,

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 response. I have examined the matter and I outline the position as follows.

Please be advised of the following in regards to the question above:

**Midlands:**

**Longford/Westmeath Disability Services** have had no children excluded from the Kilbixy Paddocks service to date. Three children chose to withdraw from Kilbixy Paddocks respite at their own request

**Laois Offaly Disability Services** have provided the following information:

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.



The number of children that were referred to Kilbixy Paddocks for respite who were subsequently excluded from the service in each month since January 2020	Date Excluded	The number in each month that had commenced the service before being excluded	The number from each month that were offered alternative respite supports that matched the hours and days provided in Kilbixy Paddocks	The average timeframe for this alternative service to be provided
1 Child (in total)	05/01/2023	1 Child (in total)	1 Child (in total)	4 months

**Louth/Meath**

**Louth /Meath Disability Services** have not made any respite referrals for children to Kilbixy Paddocks.

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,

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Anne Kennedy  
Acting Chief Officer  
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation