

4th April 2023

Deputy Pearse Doherty
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 13993/23

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth when it is planned that respite services for children and young adults will recommence at Drumboe House, County Donegal; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Doherty

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.

Donegal Disability Services regret the inconvenience to service users and their families that they are not currently in a position to use Drumboe Respite House for respite.

The provision of respite has been suspended in Drumboe Respite House due to the requirement to provide residential accommodation to four people with a disability who presented as homeless. One person has now been relocated to alternative accommodation. Suitable accommodation is being actively sourced for the remaining three people. The timeframe for the reopening of Drumboe Respite House is anticipated to be Q4 2023.

Ballymacool Respite House is providing respite for service users who normally availed of respite in Drumboe Respite Centre. Ballymacool Respite House continues to provide respite services five nights per week. Rehab Care Seaview Respite House Mountcharles is currently providing five nights per week. Funding has been secured to increase Rehab Care respite services in Seaview House Mountcharles from 5 days to 7 days per week in 2023.

The alternative respite supports that are in place are direct payments and intensive support packages.

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



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