

5<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Brendan Smith TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ 16003/23**

**To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth when additional places will be provided for trainees at Drumlin House, Cootehill, County Cavan; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Smith

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.

Drumlin House have 15 HSE funded Rehabilitative Training Places and 80 people attending other Day Service Programmes. Demand for Day Service placements for school leavers continues to grow in all areas including Cavan.

The HSE School Leaver Process ensures placement funding for new places for leavers every year but there is an issue with physical capacity and space. In the absence of capital funding for day services over the past number of years the services have been relying on a small amount of annual rent/lease funding to increase capacity required. HSE allocated €50k roll over rent/lease funding to Drumlin in 2022 to provide a new development for school leavers but they have had difficulty in sourcing a suitable premises. The most recent update from Drumlin is that the landlord they have engaged with has completed a purchase and they are waiting on feedback in relation to indicative rental costs and timeline for development which they expect to have shortly."

It is hoped that this will increase capacity for 2023 leavers and beyond.

The HSE Disability Service have escalated the need for new capital developments for day services to the HSE Estates Department and continue to follow up on this process.

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', written on a light-colored rectangular background.

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