

19th July 2024

Mr Matt Carthy, T.D.,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
D02 XR20

Re: PQ ref 18897/24 - Overnight Respite Services Castleblayney

“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth further to the announcement by the Minister of State of an interim overnight respite service for children with disabilities being sanctioned at Castleblayney, County Monaghan, the service provider that will be contracted to operate this service; the address of the service; the number of children that will be provided with respite at this service; the criteria that will apply for children to receive this service; the duration of the contract concerned; and if he will make a statement on the matter.” – Matt Carthy

Dear Deputy Carthy,

I refer to your parliamentary question above which has been referred to me for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The HSE Community Healthcare Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo (CH CDLMS) Disability Services can confirm that the location of the new interim Children’s Respite Centre for Monaghan will be located at Urbalkirk, approximately 8kms from Monaghan town.

The Cavan Monaghan Disability Services management team completed a procurement process with existing contracted service providers, to provide the interim children’s respite service on the basis that it would be a five bedded residential respite house inclusive of a self-contained apartment. The service would be delivered with full time nursing support and that the service must be operational no later than the 1st October, 2024.

The Talbot Group has been awarded a two year contract to deliver the interim children’s respite service in Monaghan and has secured the property at Urbalkirk, Monaghan. The renovation and development works required to the property have been identified, and the engaged contractor has commenced the necessary works to the property. This includes a studio style apartment with separate entrance and another ground floor bedroom, which will be wheelchair accessible. The respite house will have a further three bedrooms upstairs as well as a relaxation/play room.



HSE CH CDLMS Disability Services continue to work closely with the Talbot Group to have the service commenced by 1st October 2024. The Talbot Group will provide a service for 362 nights, closing Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and St Stephen's Day.

The number of children who will avail of respite each week will be dependent on the level of complexity of each individual child, the number of nights each child can be allocated due to their care needs and the compatibility of some children with other children. The criteria for admission is under consideration with HSE Disability Services, the Children's Disability Network Team, Annalee Respite Centre Manager and Talbot Group Respite Services Management.

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 purple ink that reads 'Bernie Donaghy'.

Bernie Donaghy
A/Head of Service Disability CH CDLMS
Ceann na Seirbhíse Míchumas
Eagraíocht Chúram Sláinte Limistéar CDLMS