



**Office of the General Manager**

Disability Services South East Community  
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29<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Ms. Sinead Gibney TD  
Dail Eireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ 43772/25**

**To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality to provide an update on the status of respite funding for adults with intellectual disabilities and autism in counties Carlow and Kilkenny and specifically the status of promised funding to SOS Kilkenny; and if she will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Gibney,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

*I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.*

Respite Services for adults with intellectual disabilities and autism in Carlow and Kilkenny are provided through funded agencies Delta Centre in Carlow and SOS in Kilkenny.

Delta Centre in Carlow operates one respite house, six nights per week. SOS in Kilkenny operates one respite house, two nights per week. Both of these services are fully funded by the HSE.

Delta Centre in Carlow has advised that they could provide a second respite house, should funding become available.

SOS has also submitted a business case to extend to four nights per week, which will be considered by the HSE should additional funding become available. The HSE is also aware that SOS is working on plans to relocate their respite house to a larger, wheelchair accessible house in the Sycamores, Kilkenny. This will also have to be considered in conjunction with a business case and available funding.

The provision of residential respite services has come under increasing pressure in recent years due to a number of factors including increasing service demand and complexity of need and regulatory requirements. The HSE is very much aware of the importance of respite service provision for the families of adults with disabilities. In this regard, the HSE continues to work with agencies to explore various ways of responding to this need in line with the available resources.

Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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**Ms. Karen Fitzgerald**  
**General Manager – Adult Disability Services**  
**IHA Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary**  
**IHA Waterford/Wexford**