

**Ceann na Seirbhíse Míchumas**

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Slainte
Seirbhísi Pobaill (An Cabhán, Dún na
nGall, Liatroim, Muineachán &
Sligeach)
Áras Isacc Butt, Bealach Féich,
Tír Chonaill F93 YV9R

Head of Service Disability

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6th October 2025

Mr Brendan Smith TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 45389/25 “To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality if the terms of the Statement of Purpose for counties Cavan and Monaghan currently excludes adults with mild intellectual disabilities, including autism, from respite supports and services; and if Cavan and Monaghan is the only area where this exclusion currently exists, and if she will make a statement on the matter” - Brendan Smith

Dear Deputy Smith,

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

The HSE Community Services Cavan Donegal Leitrim Monaghan Sligo (CS CDLMS) provide Disability Services in Cavan and Monaghan in line with its allocated budget from the Department of Children, Disability and Equality (DCDE) which informs the HSE's National Service Plan and budget. Similarly, capital developments are progressed in line with the national HSE Estates programme as per the Disability Services capital budget made available by DCDE.

Please see below regarding respite services for adults from County Cavan and County Monaghan as requested.

Adult Respite Services in Cavan and Monaghan

The HSE through its Cavan/Monaghan Disability Services currently operates two adult respite services across the counties of Cavan and Monaghan, Annalee Respite Centre in County Cavan and Steadfast House Respite Centre in County Monaghan.

Annalee House Respite Centre

HSE Disability Services in HSE CS CDLMS, operate directly one respite centre, Annalee Respite Centre, in County Cavan. This centre is a five bedded unit that caters for adults and children from Counties Cavan and Monaghan on alternate weeks. The majority of children attending Annalee are from County Cavan as a new respite centre for children opened in County Monaghan in October 2024. Each alternate week there are between eight and eleven children who avail of between one and four respite nights, depending on the assessed individual needs of each child and his/her family. Between thirteen and fifteen adults avail of respite depending on their assessed individual service needs.

Steadfast House

This is an overnight respite centre in County Monaghan. Steadfast House is a HSE funded Section 39 provider which had been funded under its Service Arrangement with the HSE to deliver 840 respite nights per annum to adults as per the funding available to HSE CS CDLMS Disability Services. Following the submission and subsequent approval of a proposal for additional respite funding under the National Service Plan in 2024 for an increased respite service, Steadfast House is now being funded by the HSE to provide 1500 respite nights per year. As such Steadfast House has been operational seven nights per week since 2nd of September 2024.

The following is the admission criteria for adult respite services in counties Cavan and Monaghan:

- Adult Service Users aged between 18 and 65 years of age
- Resident in Cavan Monaghan area.
- Registered or eligible to be registered on the National Intellectual Disability Database.
- Have an appropriate psychological assessment confirming the presence of moderate to severe intellectual disability and is accessing the Adult Intellectual Disability Team
- Referral for admissions are received directly from family member, and/or the Adult Intellectual Disability Service Team

This is the current admission criteria for adult respite services across Community Services Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo.

Mountain View Respite House, Cavan

This is a new respite centre for adults with physical and sensory disabilities from counties Monaghan and Cavan. It is planned that it will open in Quarter 4, 2025. The respite house is funded for the delivery of four beds. The HSE received HIQA registration for the centre on the 13th August 2025.

Proposed New Cavan Respite Centre

HSE CS CDLMS Disability Services, in conjunction with HSE Capital & Estates Dublin North East, prepared capital submission documents for the national HSE Capital and Property Steering Committee, to seek approval and funding to provide for a standalone respite centre for adults with an intellectual disability in County Cavan with Annalee Respite House to become a children's only respite centre. Cavan Monaghan Disability Services were advised that this project would be required to go through the new Strategic Healthcare Investment Framework (SHIF) and Common Appraisal Framework (CAF) process for approving the project to proceed as a new capital development. The SHIF realignment assessment has been completed and submitted to the national HSE Property Review Group (PRG). The Cavan Adult Respite project was recently assessed as SHIF aligned following the service update to the SHIF alignment document received in June 2025. This project (previous capital submission documents 2024) has been reviewed as part of the agenda of the Capital Planning Expert Group (CPEG) meeting held at the end of August 2025 and the minutes of the CPEG meeting, number 05, have identified that the Adult Disability Respite Service for Cavan Area is 'SHIF' aligned following the health planners review. The next step in this project will be to identify a suitable site for the project and to gain approval for the

purchase of same through the HSE Property Review Group (PRG) board. HSE Capital & Estates Dublin North East, is engaged in trying to identify a suitable site.

This development, if approved, and funding allocated, would ensure that there are standalone residential respite centres for adults in both the counties of Monaghan and Cavan and standalone residential respite centres for children in both counties in addition to a bespoke, dedicated respite centre for adults from both counties Cavan and Monaghan with physical and sensory disabilities.

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 Services

Community Services Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo

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