



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
HSE Community Services (Cavan,
Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan & Sligo)
The Isacc Butt Building, Ballybofey
Co. Donegal F93 YV9R
Tel+353(0)74 9189028/ 9189032
Email: Edel.Quinn@hse.ie

1st October 2025

Mr. Matt Carthy TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 48069/25

“To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the status of a new children's disability respite centre in Monaghan; the additional respite places that will be available in the new centre; if the current respite centre will close before or after the new centre is delivered; and if she will make a statement on the matter.” - M. 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 Services Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo (CS CDLMS) Disability Services provide Disability Services in Cavan and Monaghan Integrated Healthcare Area (IHA) 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 Monaghan as requested:

Children's Respite Centre Monaghan:

HSE Capital and Estates Dublin & North East and Disability Services in the Cavan Monaghan service area have identified a premises for sale suitable for the purposes of renovation to develop a HSE respite centre for children. The purchase transaction has been approved and completed. The keys of the premises have been transferred to HSE Estates North East. The premises is located at Drumbear, Ballybay Road, Co. Monaghan. HSE Estates North East have identified an architect to commence the design element of the property. Cavan Monaghan Disability Services Management Team alongside HSE Capital and Estates Dublin & North East met in August with the Architect to review the design. A number of amendments to the design were identified. The design team will resubmit the updated design plans for further review. HSE

Capital and Estates Dublin & North East will then complete a capital project to prepare the property to deliver a five-bedroom residential respite facility. HSE Capital and Estates Dublin & North East have advised that this project should be completed in Q1 2026. In order to legally operate as a registered residential respite centre, the facility will need to meet the required standards for a designated respite centre, which is assessed and determined by the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA).

Interim Children's Respite Centre for Monaghan: Further to engagements with the national HSE Disability Operations lead, HSE CS CDLMS Disability Services secured commitment for funding for an interim, two year residential respite service for children in County Monaghan pending the development of the new HSE facility as referenced in the previous section. The location of the interim Children's Respite Centre for Monaghan is at Urbalkirk, approximately 8kms from Monaghan town. The Talbot Group operate the service under a Service Arrangement with the HSE. The interim Children's Respite Centre, called Rainbow Lodge, became operational on 1st October 2024. The service has been procured for a two year period from 1st October 2024 to 30th September 2026. Retention of this respite centre's services will be dependent on the additional funding allocation being provided to the HSE in its allocated budget from DCDE. Should additional respite funding be allocated, consideration based on assessed need for respite for those requiring Specialist Community Based Disability Services will inform the future service model.

Alternative respite supports for children in Cavan and Monaghan

Alternative respite services, which includes both day respite and afterschool respite, are available via providers, funded and contracted by the HSE, to provide support to children and their families from Cavan and Monaghan. These services are:

- Kilbixy Day Services (Galro) which is an alternative respite service based in Mullingar, County Westmeath. This service provides Saturday and Sunday day respite services to 27 children.
- Little Wonders Afterschool and Saturday Club is an alternative respite service based in Castleblayney, County Monaghan, and offers after school Monday to Friday and also a Saturday Club. 25 children avail of the service each week with a further 7 children currently on the waiting list.
- Home Based Respite Support Direct Payment Grants are offered and provided to children and their families in County Monaghan.
- While families can access the HSE Home Support Services, there are instances where the service may not fully meet the specific support needs of a child with an extremely complex presentation. In such cases, an Intensive Home Care Package is arranged through the HSE, via Trinity Services and YAP (Youth Advocacy Programme) Services, to provide tailored support to children within their family home.

Annalee House Respite Centre: HSE Disability Services in HSE CS CDLMS, directly operate 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. 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.

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,

Denise Curran

A/Head of Service Disability Services

Community Services Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo

Seirbhísi Pobail An Cabhán, Dún na nGall, Liatroim, Muineachán & Sligeach