



Office of the General Manager

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29th September 2025

Mr. Liam Quaide TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 49703/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the funding status for SOS Kilkenny's respite services; to outline when the funding that has been promised will be released; the way in which his Department will ensure sustainable, multi-annual funding for specialist respite provision for people with intellectual disabilities in Kilkenny; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Quaide,

HSE Dublin and South East appreciates and values the opportunity for respite for families and individuals and are committed to ensuring an equitable and fair approach to service delivery in line with budget allocation. This includes the annual delivery of disability services and the planning of services into the future.

SOS Kilkenny met with the HSE in January 2023 to discuss their plans for the de-congregation of the Sycamore Home. SOS has confirmed that, once this de-congregation takes place, the building will be considered as a potential location for the development of a respite centre. This building is fully accessible to meet all levels of disability, tracking hoists and some en-suite rooms, and the building has space for development if required.

The HSE and SOS have committed to exploring the opportunity within potential resources available. The HSE will continue to engage with SOS regarding their plans. Once SOS is in a position to develop Sycamore House for respite, they will need to submit a business case to the HSE outlining their proposed plans and services for consideration for funding.

In the meantime, SOS has submitted a business case to extend it's existing respite service from two nights per week to four nights per week. This is currently being considered for funding.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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