



Head of Disability Services
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare
Health Service Executive,
Rathass, Tralee, Co Kerry
Eircode: V92 YA25
066 7184505

23rd July, 2024

Mr. Danny Healy-Rae, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 32740/24

“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the reason the respite facility for people with intellectual disabilities in Listowel, County Kerry is closed; if it will be reopened; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for response.

The Cois na Féile respite service was operated by Kerry Parents and Friends Association (KPFA) since 2018. This house provided four adult respite beds on a seven day week basis. In January 2024 Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CKCH) Disability Services met with the KPFA Board of Management to discuss their ongoing challenges securing staff for the respite house. At that meeting KPFA provided notice to CKCH of their intent to cease operating the service.

CKCH has commenced a procurement tendering process to identify an alternative provider to operate the Cois na Féile respite house. CKCH Disability Services remain committed to the re-commencement of the service as soon as possible.

CKCH Disability Services continues to work to identify alternative interim supports for those impacted by the temporary closure. Every effort has been made to identify alternative services to support those impacted. A CKCH Disability Services representative met with families on February 28th, April 17th and May 7th 2024. At the meeting on April 17th the CKCH representative assured families that those impacted by the temporary closure of the respite house would receive a letter outlining alternative available supports. The letter was sent to families on Friday April 19th and the requested deadline for families to submit a request for temporary alternative respite supports was May 3rd 2024. All applications received by CKCH Disability Services have been processed and referred to suitable agencies to commence the process to provide alternative respite to families.

CKCH Disability Services will continue to ensure all those impacted by the temporary closure of the Cois na Féile respite house are provided with updates on this matter.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely,



Angela O'Neill

**Ms. Angela O'Neill,
Head of Disability Services,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare.**

