

2nd October 2024.

Ms. Holly Cairns, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 38951/24

“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 578 of 18 September 2024, the reason for the reduction in service provision in the centre since 2019, despite the minor increase in staffing; and the number of staff currently on leave in the centre.”

Details Supplied: CoAction, Dunmanway, Cork.

Dear Deputy Cairns,

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.

I am responding to your follow up question regarding Children’s Respite Services in Dunmanway which are provided by CoAction.

The data previously provided covered the period 1st January - 1st September 2024. There is a projected increase in service provision by year end, in comparison to that provided in 2019.

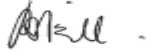
CoAction acknowledges that the number of children in receipt of service has decreased. The level of service provided to service users is based on the assessed needs of individual children and the ability of CoAction to support them safely and effectively within their available resources.

There is a governance structure in place which supports CoAction in the allocation of respite, based on a *risk-based needs assessment*, to ensure service delivery is safe and responsive.

CoAction has advised that three part time staff (0.5WTE) are on leave. Where possible relief staff are utilised to compensate for the shortfall.

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

Yours sincerely,



Patricia O'Neill
A/ Head of Disability Services
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare.

