



Deputy Martin Browne
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

28th November 2024

PQ 39898/24 - To ask the Minister for Health to provide a breakdown of all respite beds in County Tipperary; the number of these beds that are currently operational and the number that are currently closed, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Martin Browne

Dear Deputy Browne,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Access and Integration contacted colleagues in HSE Older People Operations and in HSE Specialist Disability Services in response to your question.

Older Persons Services response:

Respite care in Ireland is recognised as an important component of a devised package of measures that support service users with particular care needs to remain living quality lives within their own home and communities. Acknowledging the fact that family carers/informal carers are key stakeholders in the care and support of the older person, the primary purpose of this care initiative is to allow carers to take a break from their caring role and from the possible stresses that this role may give rise to. Respite care may be based in the community within the person’s own home or in residential care settings through HSE managed facilities, by agreement with local/ national voluntary organisations or by contracted private facilities.

Table 1: Respite Beds Oct 24

Tipperary Respite Beds			
HSE Managed Beds			
Health Region Name	LHO	No of Respite Beds	No of Respite Beds Temporarily closed
HSE Mid West	Tipperary / East Limerick	13	4
HSE Dublin and South East	South Tipperary	5	0
		18	4
HSE Contracted Beds			
Health Region Name	No. of Contracted Beds	No. of beds closed	
HSE Mid West	16	0	



Specialist Disability Services response:

The HSE and its funded Agencies provide respite care to children and adults with disabilities. Respite can occur in a variety of settings for various lengths of time, depending on the needs of the individual service user and their family or carer, and according to available resources. Respite is not always centre-based and can be provided in a number of ways, e.g. Centre based; In-Home; Home-to-Home; Family Support, etc. As a vital part of the continuum of services for families, respite potentially helps prevent out-of-home full-time residential placements, preserves the family unit, and supports family stability.

With regards to the questions asked, data regarding Respite beds is not routinely compiled by Disability services, as a respite place/bed will yield several respite sessions, however a review of centre-based respite capacity and provision in the CHO Areas was completed in 2023.

There is a maximum of 782 respite beds available (485 for Adults; 212 for Children; and 79 mixed) of which 642.5 respite beds are available.

Please see table below with the 2023 number of respite centres for adults and children with disabilities together with the number of people availing of Respite Services and the 2022 outturn for respite overnights, broken down by CHO Area. Co Tipperary is located within both CHO 3 and CHO 5 area and it is not possible to extrapolate information specifically for Co Tipperary.

Table 2: Respite Places/beds 2023.

	CHO1	CHO2	CHO3	CHO4	CHO5	CHO6	CHO7	CHO8	CHO9	Total
Maximum Respite Occupancy of Designated Centre	37	112.7	71	126	64	105	104	81	81	781.7
No of Active Respite Beds in Designated Centre	37	96.6	65	85	57	56	103	70	73	642.6
No of People availing of Respite	309	694	446	665	713	304	788	979	771	5669.0
2022 Outturn Overnights Provided	6,006	33,105	12,879	13,108	10,170	9,754	16,298	18,894	13,358	133,572

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

David Walsh
National Director
Access and Integration