



30th October 2024

Mr. Johnny Mythen TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 43654/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of respite hours provided to families in County Wexford in each of the past 12 months; the number provided in each month since March 2020 and to date in 2024, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Mythen,

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

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

The following table sets out the total number of respite nights delivered in Wexford for Adult and Children Disability Services since March 2020:

Adult Services	No. of Respite Nights	Children Services	No. of Respite Nights
2020	2404 (then closed due to Covid-19)	2020	1332 (then closed due to Covid – 19)
2021	5466	2021	1763
2022	6114	2022	2571
2023	6453	2023	3131
2024	3456 to date	2024	1601 to date

It is important to note that respite services may not run at full capacity due to client need, assessed risks and compatibility issues at any given time and issues around recruitment of staff, therefore the number of available respite nights is subject to change.

There are no designated Physical and Sensory beds, for those clients applications are made to Nursing Homes on an ad hoc basis as the need arises.

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
South East Community Healthcare