



Ceannasai na Seirbhísi Cúram Michumais General Manager of Disability Services – Midlands

Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tire
An Lú, An Mhí,
Ionad Sláinte, An Mhí Bóthar Ard, An Tulaigh
Mhóir, Co. Uíbh Fhailí. R35 HP73

Midlands Louth Meath Community
Healthcare Organisation (MLM CHO)
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4th October 2024

Sorca Clarke TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

RE: PQ ref 37838/24
The steps being taken to improve disability services in County Westmeath

Dear Deputy Clarke,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question. I have examined the matter and I outline the position as follows.

HSE Disability Services provides a range of specialist services including respite, residential and day services to people of Westmeath with intellectual, physical and / or sensory disabilities. These services are provided both directly by the HSE and in partnership with section 38, section 39 and for profit agencies.

Day Services:

The Day Opportunity office work with schools yearly to identify the support needs of school and rehabilitative training leavers. Each year, following extensive work to establish the need, day services are developed. Over the last five (5) years there have been three (3) new Day Service locations opened with a planned fourth new location to open early in 2025.

Respite:

Westmeath Disability Services continue to make every effort to maximise respite services for both adults and children with an Intellectual disability. An additional two overnight respite beds for children across Longford / Westmeath is expected to come on stream in quarter one (1) 2025. In addition to this, developments within community respite include the extension of respite weekends for Adults and Children in the Mullingar area. An increase of ninety (90) bed nights from March 2024 to date has been provided.

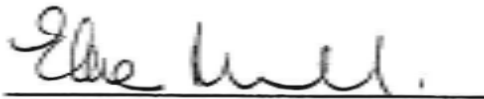
Residential:

HSE disability services has worked collaboratively with all agencies involved in residential service development and delivery. A further four (4) residential beds have been secured within the community residential setting to meet the needs of complex young adults. It is anticipated that this service will be fully operational by quarter one 2025.

HSE Disability Services continues to work to identify the needs within Westmeath in order to maximise service delivery from within available resources.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elaine Mulvihill', is written over a horizontal line.

Elaine Mulvihill
General Manager, Midlands Disability Services, CHO8