



**Ceannasai na Seirbhísi Curam Michumais General Manager of Disability Services – Louth Meath**

Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tire  
An Lú, An Mhí,  
Oifig Ceantair, Bóthar Cheanannais, Bhaile  
Átha Fhirdia, Co. Lú

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10<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Deputy Darren O'Rourke,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**Re: PQ 46827/24 - To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth his plans to upgrade disability services in line with need in County Meath.**

Dear Deputy O'Rourke,

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. I have examined the matter and outlined the position as follows.

Disability services deliver a spectrum of services including

- CDNTs (Children's Disability Network Teams)
- Adult Teams in Meath & Louth
- Home Support / PAs
- Respite
- Residential

Development of new services is dependent on new resources allocated from HSE nationally and are always advocated and sought. In previous years funding has been received to develop residential, respite and home support / PA services. On an annual basis, all school leavers are profiled and allocated funding for a day service, based on their profiled need. Our children's teams received new posts, though filling of these posts has proven to be very challenging nationally.

In addition to strategic development, the services consistently strive to meet the immediate needs of service users, which often requires commissioning of new services, outside of the existing budget and capacity. This is essential to provide emergency residential placements, or enhanced respite, home support or day service supports, which have been deemed critical to maintain a service user at home.

Meath has commissioned a number of new services in the last number of years.

- New children's respite – Castlewood House Talbot Group Trimble's Town, Trim, Co. Meath officially opened October 2024, providing 5 beds 7 nights per week.
- New adult respite 2023 to open end of qtr 2 2025 to be delivered by My Life Services providing 5 beds, 365 days.
- New residential houses in 2023 with Clanmore – Cherry Hill – providing residential services for 7 people

- New residential houses in 2024 with Praxis Care – providing residential services for 5 people.
- 12 Residential packages provided in Meath in 2023 with full year cost of approximately €2.4 million. 16 Residential packages provided in Meath in 2024 with full year cost of approximately €2.8 million. Emergency placement Funding provided via the National Service Plan of 2024 allocated €2.1million approximately for CHO8, of which Co. Meath accounts for 1/6<sup>th</sup> of CHO8.

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 cursive script that reads "Wanetta Duff".

**Wanetta Duff**  
General Manager, Disability Services, HSE Louth Meath CHO