

A.O.C. 1/7/08

Submission No. 365

(Inq into better support for carers)

Sent: Tuesday, 24 June 2008 2:34 PM
To: Committee, FCHY (REPS)
Subject: Helping carers to continue to care.....

BETTER CARE FOR CARERS-New paliamentry
inquiry 24/6/08

To whom it may concern,

My husband and I have three dependant children, two of which have servere and profoud disabilities requiring 24 hour care and are not capable of any independant tasks.

Up until now our sons have been attending family day care together, giving us respite to help us to cope in our caring roles. Recently I have been informed that our boys might not be able to continue going to family day care together as the ISS (payment for the carers due to the disabilities) only allows one ISS payment per care environment at anyone time.This would mean that we would have to send the boys one at a time.What SUPPORT is this for us as unpaid carers trying to cope with the life we have been given.Where else is there to send the boys? no where!!!

Petrol prices are becoming a joke how are we meant to take our boys to specialist appointments that are two hours drive away.These appointments are a regular occurance?

When are you going to scrap the means testing for the carer payment like you have done for foster parents.The carer payment is a payment for all the work we carers do on behalf of the people of this country.?

For me as a mother and an unpaid carer being paid a full carer payment,recieving petrol at a reasonable price or discounted and having the opportunity to do something else out side the home such as work or volunteering would be wonderful.

Is this asking to much?

Lisa

24/06/2008