



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
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8th June 2019

Deputy Mattie McGrath
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
e-mail: mattie.mcgrath@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy McGrath,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary question, which was submitted to this department for response.

PQ 26264/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on the waiting list for residential care for adults with an intellectual disability in County Tipperary in each of the years 2008 to 2018, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response - Emergency Places and Supports for People with a Disability

The Table below sets out the number of profiled service users known to CHOs that require residential intervention. However, it should be clearly stated that not all the below referred to cohort will need immediate or crisis residential intervention in terms of acute need. Each CHO is required and responds to need on the basis of ensuring that services and supports (both 'in-home' and 'Respite') are provided in order to maintain the persons existing "home" of living situation. North Tipperary comes under the remit of CHO Area 3 and South Tipperary comes under CHO Area 5.

Numbers per CHO profiled as requiring Residential Supports

CHO Area	No. on Waiting List for Residential Supports
CHO1	100
CHO2	94
CHO3	96
CHO4	152
CHO5	114
CHO6	123
CHO7	59
CHO8	122
CHO9	119
Total	979



Seirbhís Sláinte
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The HSE National Service Plan 2019 has provided for €15m investment (90 Emergency Residential places) in respect of the provision of planned responses under this category. Critical Value Improvement Programme (VIP) actions are also agreed in this area that will a) seek to maximise existing capacity to address unmet need and b) cross community procurement approach to purchasing places within the for profit sector using existing “frameworks”.

The final decision regarding residential placement lies with CHOs, who are actively managing and mitigating the relevant risk issues through lower-cost non-residential interventions, active case-management & inter-agency cooperation. However, it is not possible in all cases to balance the aforementioned with the prevailing risk/safeguarding/health & safety issues, and the CHOs have no discretion but to immediately procure a residential placement.

At end May, a total of 40.5 emergency places were developed across the 9 CHOs (NSP target = 90 places and funding committed @ €15m).

In recognising the service pressures and capacity issues in the sector, for 2019, each CHO and all providers of residential services will be required to implement measures to maximise to the greatest possible extent, the use of existing residential capacity and improve overall value for money in this sector. A range of control measures have been implemented at CHO level over the past two years and these arrangements will be further enhanced in 2019 to ensure that all service providers at local level prioritise the placement of the most urgent cases. In addition, in order to achieve this objective, the HSE will establish an improvement programme involving the establishment of a dedicated team at national level with responsibility for co-ordination and oversight of all residential places including the most effective use of 90 placements provided for in NSP 2019.

In this context, Disability Operations undertook a scoping exercise with CHOs in relation to the utilisation of existing capacity, which has demonstrated limited opportunity in this area. NSP 2019 VIP measures regarding further examination is taking place with a view to ascertaining whether further bed capacity can be yielded; however, it remains the case that caution is advised here as it is unlikely to yield significant new capacity on a cost neutral basis.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Cathal Morgan,
Head of Operations - Disability Services,
Community Operations