



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,  
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,  
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15<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Deputy Brendan Smith  
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Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.  
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Dear Deputy Smith,

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 40403/19**

*To ask the Minister for Health if a request from an association (details supplied) for additional resources will be provided for the delivery of services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Details supplied; As requested previously by Neurological Alliance the need to improve Neurology Services.

#### **HSE Response**

The role of the HSE is to provide a multi-disciplinary team approach, which includes the provision of health and personal supports required by people with neurological diseases incorporating hospital services with primary care and community services.

The Neurological Alliance of Ireland, a national umbrella organisation for voluntary groups, professionals and interested parties representing the views and concerns of those whose lives are affected by neurological conditions.

The majority of member groups of the Neurological Alliance of Ireland are in receipt of funding per service provider to an approximate accumulated total of €200m per annum. Funding is provided in respect of both service delivery and operational / organisational expenses managed through the Service Arrangement process with the HSE.

In addition, further funding streams for many NAI organisations are accessed through:

- Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment,
- Department of Education and Science,
- Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform,
- Department of Social Protection
- Other state agencies.

## Funding – Disability Services

The HSE National Service Plan 2019 provides for a significant level of funding, at circa €1.9 billion, to deliver essential frontline services for people with a disability. These core services span a spectrum of essential interventions ranging from Clinical Therapeutic Supports, Rehabilitative Training / Day Services, Home Care Supports as well as Respite and Residential provision. This funding reflects an incremental increase in the provision of funding to the Disability service as follows;

2014: €1.4 billion  
2015: € 1.5 billion  
2016; € 1.6 billion  
2017: € 1.7 billion  
2018: € 1.8 billion  
2019: € 1.9 billion

All funded services are required to deliver safe and effective services within a defined budget allocation. The HSE must also ensure that it prioritises available resources on the basis of meeting the health and social needs of people with a disability. The HSE works in partnership with agencies to ensure the best level of service possible is provided to people with a disability, and their families, within the resources available.

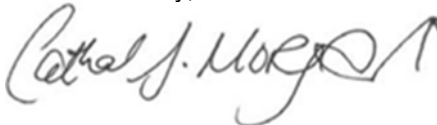
The Health Service Executive is committed to provide supports and services as per the targets set out in the National Service Plan, 2019. The following detail sets out, at a high level, the anticipated service activity levels that are being delivered commensurate with this substantial state investment.

In 2019, the quantum of services will be:

- 8,568 people with a disability are supported by a range of residential supports (65% of budget).
- 27,067 people with disabilities access the 22,272 day places and supports in over 800 locations throughout the country (20% of budget).
- 90 new emergency residential places.
- On a quarterly basis (15% of budget):
  - 6,559 people with disabilities will avail of respite.
  - 10,629 people with disabilities will avail of 4.7m hours of personal assistant / home support hours.
  - 1,424 multi-disciplinary clinicians will provide therapeutic services.

The HSE will continue to commit to deliver the service activity levels in 2019 as per the Service Plan, whilst making every effort to secure multi-annual investment for this sector via the 2020 Estimates process. The HSE is very conscious of the need to deliver disability policy on a more sustainable footing given the significant levels of need for increased and more effective services and supports to enable people with a disability to live independent lives in their own community.

Yours sincerely,



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