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18th October 2019

Deputy John Curran, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Curran,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) 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 40900/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of additional homecare and transitional care beds that have been provided for in 2019; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-Deputy has clarified that he wishes to establish the number of transitional step-down beds that have been provided for in 2019.

The National Transitional Care Scheme assists with patients in Acute Hospitals across the country who are discharging to a Nursing Home for long stay care or patients who require a period of convalescence care before they return home up to a maximum of 4 weeks. The scheme funds these patients in private nursing home beds which facilitates the discharge of the patients from the Acute Hospitals and allows their beds to be used for other patients. The scheme has been in place since 2015 and is available to all public hospitals around the country. NSP 2019 provides for a total of 10,980 TCB approvals and as at 8th September 7,424 approvals have been made year to date.

Yours sincerely

Sandra Tuohy
Assistant National Director
Older Persons Services – Operations