



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Head of Service,
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5th October 2020

Deputy Colm Burke,
Leinster House,
Kildare St,
Dublin 2,
D02 XR20

RE: PQ Ref 25755/20

To ask the Minister for Health the efforts being made to find independent living for 97 residents under 65 years of age that are currently residing in Private Nursing Homes in the Mid-West region; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Burke,

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 the following is the HSE's position.

You will probably be aware that the Ombudsman is currently carrying out an investigation into the placement of persons under 65 years of age in Nursing Homes. In providing information to the Ombudsman recently, I can confirm that there are 39 persons in the Mid-West region under 65 years accommodated in Private Nursing Homes.

The HSE makes every effort to secure the most appropriate accommodation / placement option that best meets the needs of each individual. Each case is assigned an individual Case Manager who works with all stakeholders including the person and their family (where applicable) to explore all options to meet that person's needs. Depending on the person's ability to live in the community, the HSE will work closely with the relevant Local Authority in looking at all possible accommodation options which may include an in home /individualised Personal Support Package.

Options considered will vary from providing in-home supports, respite services or in some cases full time residential placements in private or funded agencies. Where in-home supports are not deemed sufficient to meet the person's needs and no vacancies are available in private or funded agencies, placement in a public or private nursing home is considered with the consent of the person and their family where applicable. This process involves an assessment and confirmation that the selected nursing home can meet the presenting needs of the person. All placements in nursing homes are reviewed by the Case Manager on a continual basis.

I trust this clarifies the situation but should you require any further information or clarification in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice Hoare
Head of Service – Disability Services
HSE Mid-West Community Healthcare