



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Straitéis agus Pleanáil Oifig na Míchumas,
31-33 Sráid Chaitríona, Luimneach.

Office of Disability Strategy and Planning,
31-33 Catherine Street, Limerick.

T: 00353 (0) 61 483369
Suíomh Gréasáin/Website: <http://www.hse.ie>

30/06/2021

Deputy David Cullinane
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: david.cullinane@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Cullinane

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

PQ 24543/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons with disabilities currently placed in designated centres for older persons by age (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Details supplied: under 18; 18-30; 31-40; 41-50; 51-60; 61-65

HSE Response

The Nursing Home Support Scheme (NHSS) Office provides details of residents supported under the Nursing Homes support Scheme by age category, gender, locations in public and private Nursing Homes. The NHSS IT system does not record details of residents' ability levels, illnesses or other medical data and so therefore is unable to identify residents with a disability. The most recent statistics available are based on March 2021 Nursing Home Support Scheme statistics. This is the most recent month for which we have full statistics.

The statistics are available as follows;

18-29	12
30-39	51
40-49	179
50-59	503
60-64	597
total	1,342

In line with the Programme for Government to: "Reduce and provide a pathway to eliminate the practice of accommodating young people with serious disabilities in nursing homes", the HSE Disability Services proposed a new initiative to progress the implementation of the UNCRPD and the Time To Move on policy, both of which promote the rights of all people with disabilities to be treated equally and supported to live independently with the supports they need in the community rather than in congregated settings.

A proposal for funding this initiative formed part of the HSE Estimates Process presented to Department of Health in 2020.

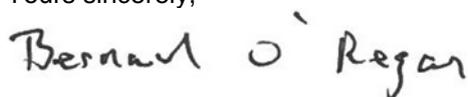
The HSE National Service Plan 2021 commits to the provision of 18 places to support people with disability under the age of 65 to move from nursing homes to their own home in the community.

Notwithstanding this, the Local Community Healthcare Areas can identify residents within their areas who are under 65 years of age with disabilities, resident in Nursing Homes and will work with the Pilot Project to avail of the provision of 18 places to support people with disability under the age of 65 to move from nursing homes to their own home in the community. The HSE will be making a submission as part of the forthcoming Estimates process to build on this initiative in 2022.

In addition, with regard to the recent Ombudsman report regarding the placement of persons under 65 in Nursing Homes, the HSE broadly welcomes the report and the principles underpinning the recommendations which align well with our own considerations in this area. The HSE is committed to progressing an action plan based on the recommendations from the Ombudsman.

In essence, the HSE is fully committed to the UN Convention on the Rights of People with a Disability and the implementation of Sláintecare which is ultimately about delivering the right care in the right place at the right time.

Yours sincerely,



Bernard O'Regan
Head of Disability Strategy and Planning