



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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16th November 2021

Deputy Violet Anne Wynne
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: violet-anne.wynne@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Wynne

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 52973/21

To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of the additional €100 million for the disability budget announced in 2020 for 2021; and the amount of such monies that has been spent to date in tabular form.

HSE Response

In October 2020, the HSE welcomed the announcements from the Government of additional funding for Disability Services.

An additional €100 million was secured for Disability Services in 2020 for the 2021 budget.

In order to support mainstream person-centred community based supports for people with disabilities and their families, the following were the key priority areas for 2021.

Residential places, respite and personal assistant services – developments

- Provide a total of 102 additional residential places comprising of 44 emergency places, 36 planned residential places, in response to current and demographic need, four adult transfers from Tusla and 18 places to support people with disability under the age of 65 to move from nursing homes to their own home in the community
- Provide nine additional centre-based services, providing some 10,400 additional respite nights along with a range of alternative respite projects including Saturday clubs, breakaway schemes, and summer schemes
- Provide 214 intensive respite support packages to children and young adults
- Deliver 40,000 additional hours of personal assistant supports to expand and enhance supports for people to live self-directed lives in their own communities.

Day services

- Provide an additional 1,700 day services places, delivered in line with the New Directions policy, for school leavers and graduates of rehabilitative training

- Protect full time service supports for the 5,000 people that receive both day and residential services and enhance the day service provision for the 14,500 day attenders by increasing their current COVID-19 impacted service from 40% (equivalent to 2 days per week) to 60% (equivalent to 3 days per week) on average
- Continue to work towards the full resumption of day services in line with public health guidance and New Directions policy by acquiring new locations on a short-term basis to provide additional physical capacity and through improving transport services to enable service users to attend at more diverse locations.

Multi-disciplinary services and assessment of need for children and adults

- Implement fully the revised standard operating procedure and the national access policy within CHOs through the children's disability network teams and progress the delivery of the assessment of need process in line with legal requirements
- Provide 100 additional multi-disciplinary posts within children's network teams to improve assessment of need and treatment with a particular focus on behavioural, dietetics and paediatric services within the children's disability network teams and move towards the completion of reconfiguration under progressing disability services
- Subject to Government approval, recruit 27 staff to commence preparation for establishing the process of assessment of needs for adults (19–21 year olds).

Time to Move On from Congregated Settings – A Strategy for Community Inclusion

- Provide 144 more people with a disability, who are currently living in congregated settings, with more person-centred homes in the community in 2021. Pilot a model of service in one geographical area to support people with an intellectual disability and dementia to transition to community living
- Continue capacity building work in services to support the change from a traditional institutional model of service to a person-centred model of support in the community
- Support the acquisition / development of approximately 30 new homes to meet the needs of those due to move from the congregated settings in 2021

The table below gives an outline of the service areas, the funding allocation and the spend to date.

Service	Description	Allocation	Spent YTD	Total available	Comment
Emergency Places	44 emergency residential placements	5,500,000	-5,500,000	0	
Respite	9 additional respite houses, providing some 10,400 additional respite nights and alternative respite	5,000,000	-5,000,000	0	
Under 65 from Nursing Home	18 Nursing Home transitions of under 65s	3,000,000		3,000,000	The funding will be released shortly
Decongregation	144 further moves from congregated to community based settings in 2021 and acquisition of 30 new houses to support de-congregations over 2021	4,100,000	-977,000	3,123,000	
Personal Assistance	40,000 additional Personal Assistant hours, total target of 1.74m hours in 2021	600,000	-599,940	60	

Intensive Care packages	214 additional intensive respite support packages to children and young adults.	6,000,000	-5,999,400	600	
Tusla €1m	4 transitions from TUSLA to adult services	1,000,000	-1,000,000	0	
Tusla €5.5 m balance	Implement joint HSE and Tusla interagency protocol, prioritising in 2021 co-funding the placement of 33 children and supporting the move of a number of young adults from Tusla to adult disability services	4,200,000	-4,200,000	0	
Day Service Resumption	Protect full-time day service support for 5,000 people that receive both day and residential services and increase day service provision for 14,500 day attenders from 40% (equivalent to 2 days per week) to 60% (equivalent to 3 days per week) on average.	30,000,000	-20,335,183	9,664,817	
School Leavers	1,500 additional school leaver places for cohort leaving school in 2021	17,400,000	-17,400,000	0	
Progressing Disability Services Children	100 additional multi-disciplinary therapy posts within children's network teams to improve assessment of need and treatment.	3,500,000	0	3,500,000	ongoing
Progressing Disability Services Adults	27 additional staff to commence the process of assessment of need for adults.	1,700,000	0	1,700,000	ongoing
Planned residential Places	36 planned residential placements	5,500,000	-5,400,000	100,000	
S 39 Org Pay Restoration	Committed funding	10,000,000	-10,000,000	0	Committed funding
Disability Integration Initiative		2,500,000	0	2,500,000	Held by the Department of Health until 2022
Total		100 million	-76,411,523	23,588,477	

In addition, the HSE welcomes the recent publication of the Department of Health's "*Disability Capacity Review to 2032 -A Review of Disability Social Care Demand and Capacity Requirements up to 2032*". The Capacity Review provides detailed evidence of the extent of demographic and unmet need and provides detailed estimates of service and expenditure requirements for:

- residential care
- adult day services
- personal assistance and home support
- multidisciplinary therapies
- respite, and other community services and supports.

The Capacity Review emphasises the importance of a planned approach to meeting current and future requirements and the critical need for a multi-annual current and capital funding programme to secure effective and timely delivery, at the most reasonable cost. The HSE strongly welcomes this recommendation and agrees that detailed forward planning underpinned by multi-annual investment is required to ensure that services become available where and when they are needed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bernard O'Regan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a clear 'O' and 'R'.

Bernard O'Regan
Head of Operations - Disability Services,
Community Operations