



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

**Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,**  
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,  
31-33 Sráid Chaitríona, Luimneach.

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22<sup>nd</sup> November 2021

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Dublin 2.  
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Dear Deputy Tully,

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: 55064/21**

*To ask the Minister for Health the status of progress on meeting the commitment in the HSE service plan 2021 to provide for services (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Details supplied; 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.

**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

With regard to the question concerning the 102 additional residential places, the table below gives the breakdown of the 102 additional residential places and the status of progress

New Measure	Description	Target	Data at End September Data
In year Transitions from Tusla to HSE (residential)	4 transitions from TUSLA to adult services	4 transitions	4
Residential Placements: Planned	36 planned residential placements	36 placements	12
Alternative Placements from Nursing Homes (18)	18 Nursing Home transitions of under 65s	18 NH transitions	6
Residential Placements: Emergency	44 emergency residential placements	44 emergency residential places	64

Yours sincerely,

Bernard O'Regan

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