



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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21<sup>st</sup> September 2021

Deputy David Cullinane,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.  
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Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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

**PQ 41777/21**

*To ask the Minister for Health the estimated capital and current cost of an additional disability services residential place.*

**PQ 41739/21**

*To ask the Minister for Health the estimated current and capital cost of 100 additional residential places for persons with a disability.*

**HSE Response**

Residential services make up the largest part of the Disability funding disbursed by the HSE – over 60% of the total budget of €2.05 billion in 2020.

Disability services are delivered through a mix of HSE direct provision but largely through voluntary service providers, and private providers funded under Section 38 and Section 39 of the Health Act 2004 and governed by way of a Service Arrangement (SA) or Grant Aid Agreement (GA) via 9 Community Health Organisations. The HSE currently manages approximately 1,076 SAs or GAs with a total of 419 organisations.

With regard to funding and costings, 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.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the HSE is providing a response below to the specific questions raised:

### **Capital**

The average capital cost has been €166,000 per person for new build (excluding the site). The cost for purchase/refurbishment projects has averaged €136,000 per person. These are based in general on each house accommodating 3 to 4 four people.

On this basis, the capital cost for 100 people would range between approximately €16.6m (plus the cost of sites) for new builds to €13.6m for purchase and refurbishment.

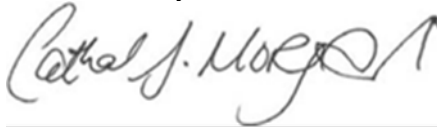
We do expect costs to increase with current market pressures and increase in building material costs.

### **Revenue**

The revenue cost for a residential place can range between €150,000 - €282,000 on average per person, depending on the person's support needs. However, it should also be noted that about 10% of placements have a requirement for intensive supports and the average cost for these placements is €546,000

On this basis, for 100 placements, the costs for 90 placements would range between €13.5m - €25.38m per annum with about 10 intensive support placements costing €5.46m per annum.

Yours sincerely,



**Dr. Cathal Morgan,**  
**Head of Operations - Disability Services,**  
**Community Operations**