



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
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11th October 2021

Deputy Violet Anne Wynne,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: violetanne.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 47033/21

To ask the Minister for Health the way the selection criteria will be devised in relation to the recent commitment to transition 18 out of over 1,300 young persons living in institutional care into community settings; the detriments of the selection process, that is, cost of care package, availability of accessible housing, length of stay in residential care setting and so on; the projected timeline for the transitions; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response

This project commenced in 2021 with 18 people targeted to move at a cost of €3 million (€166,667 per person for direct care support hours). There was no additional funding for capital or project overhead costs included.

This is a pilot project and a key outcome will be to determine the overall funding requirements and costs associated with the transitioning of people from nursing homes: revenue, once off and ongoing, pay and non-pay and the minor capital and capital costs. It is expected that there will be a range in funding required to support each person which will be influenced by: level and type of support needed, the current funding arrangements (potential for de-bundling), planned post-transition arrangement (alternative community residential service, personalised budget, return to existing family home etc).

The costs per person provided are an average. There are significantly large variations depending on the support needs of the individuals and the current funding arrangements.

The true cost of decongregation for the people in nursing homes is still being explored as in many cases these are the cohort of residents that remain in these settings due to the requirement for significant nursing supports and appropriate accommodation.

Minor Capital / One off Revenue Funding

Where a person can access social or other available mainstream housing options, minor capital funding and access to once off non-pay revenue funding may be a key enabler to provide for the works /equipping needed to facilitate the person to move into their home. The provision of €250,000 per person is intended to



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allow some scope for once off non-pay revenue costs during the initial project as the cost model is teased out.

Capital Funding:

Delivering appropriate housing for the people transitioning from the nursing home settings will need to be achieved through a number of different options depending on support and housing needs. Funding for housing projects under the HSE Capital funding stream, in line with the Time To Move on policy, may be required to support the transition of people from nursing homes to community, where a person is transitioning to a community residential service.

Each CHO is leading the transition of at least two people based on the allocations in NSP 21. The support needs of each person are assessed and informs the transition plan and support for the person. CHOs are on track to meet the target for 2022 and a summary report will be compiled at that stage to inform further developments in this areas.

The HSE has appointed a Project Lead under the Service Reform Fund to undertake a mapping exercise of the current population of people under the age of 65 in nursing homes to determine the level of need and funding, both for supports and housing, and to develop the pathway to appropriate support arrangements. This work will be concluded in mid-2022

Yours sincerely,



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