



Office of the Assistant National Director
Change Planning and Delivery,
Disability and Mental Health Services
Disability Services/Social Care Division,
31-33 Catherine Street, Limerick.

T: 00353 (0) 61 483369
Suíomh Gréasáin/Website: <http://www.hse.ie> 2022

10th May 2022

Deputy Pauline Tully,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: pauline.tully@oireachtas.ie

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: 20462/22

To ask the Minister for Health the average cost per participant in the personalised budgets demonstration projects; and if he will make a statement on the matter

HSE Response

Personalised Budgets

Personalised Budgets represents a welcome reform within the disability sector and the publication of the Taskforce Report 'Towards Personalised Budgets for People with a Disability in Ireland' (July 2018) demonstrated the commitment to exploring the development of this service option in Ireland.

Over the last number of years, in line with disability policy, bespoke individualised arrangements have been established for a number of individuals and in that regard, the HSE currently funds organisations (Áiseanna Tacaíochta and Possibilities Plus) whose core ethos is the development of individualised services.

The project aims to give people with disabilities more control in accessing health funded personal social services, giving them greater independence and choice in accessing services which best meet their individual needs.

The pilot Personalised Budget Project is currently in its demonstration phase, a total of 265 Expressions of Interest were received with 123 persons participating to date in various stages of the pilot and over the next 2-3 months it is anticipated that up to 180 persons will participate in the project by either establishing a person managed fund where they are managing the service themselves, by entering into a co-managed arrangement with a current service provider, or by utilising the services of a broker to purchase services.

The pilot Personalised Budget Project is open to adults with a disability who are currently in receipt of HSE funded services across a broad spectrum of services, including day services, residential services and respite services. It provides participants with more control in accessing health funded personal social services, giving each participant on the Pilot Personalised Budget Project greater independence and choice in accessing services which best meet their individual needs.



The view of the Task Force was that the final design of any system of personalised budgets in Ireland can only be decided upon once a series of initial demonstrator projects have been evaluated and the findings assessed, alongside the outcomes achieved by the person and the financial sustainability of the system as a whole.

The average cost of funding, extrapolated from funded service providers and/or the HSE directly provided services, is €21,000.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. Higgins', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**Mr Brian J Higgins,
Assistant National Director: Change Planning and Delivery – Disability and Mental Health Services**