



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

Office of the Head of Operations,
Disability Services/Social Care Division,
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9th May 2022

Deputy Róisín Shortall,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: roisin.shortall@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Shortall,

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 21116/22

To ask the Minister for Health the role of an organisation (details supplied) in the provision of disability services for public patients; the oversight in place for the service; the amount paid by the State to the service in each of the past ten years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Details supplied: Nua Healthcare

HSE Response

Nua Healthcare

Nua Healthcare Services is a private for profit organisation, which provides a range of residential and day care services to people with Autism and Asperger Syndrome, Intellectual Disability Services (Children and Adults), Intellectual Disability Services (Alzheimer's and Dementia), Acquired Brain Injuries and Challenging Behaviour.

Service provision includes Residential, Independent Living, Community Outreach and Day Services.

Services are delivered in line with the National Standards for Residential Services for Children and Adults with Disabilities and all associated regulations and standards. Designated Centres are inspected and subsequently registered, following successful inspection, undertaken by Health Information and Quality Authority.

Residential Services for Children and Adults with Intellectual Disabilities are operated under the social care model and include the provision of short, medium and / or long-term placements and supported living packages. Nua also facilitate both regularly paced referrals, and respond to where possible, emergencies, 7 days per week.

Day Services facilities offer a range of activities, in accordance with the HSE's 'New Directions' model of Day Service provision.

Governance Arrangements with Nua Healthcare.

The HSE works in partnership with organisations including Section 38, Section 39, Out of State and For Profit organisations to ensure the best level of service possible is provided to people with a disability, and their families, within the available resources. The majority of specialised disability provision (80%) is delivered through non-statutory sector service providers.



The HSE acknowledges the role and contribution of non-statutory agencies in the development and provision of health and personal social services and is committed to the development of effective working relationships as enacted by the Health Act 2004.

The HSE has a formal and robust Governance Framework in place that enable the HSE to contractually underpin the grant-funding provided. All funding arrangements with non-statutory agencies are formalised by complying with this Governance Framework which has 2 different components:

- Part 1 - A Service Arrangement that is signed every 1 to 3 years by both parties and sets out the legal requirements that the agency must comply with to receive funding for the provision of services.
- Part 2 – A Set of 10 Schedules which must be completed and signed by the Agency and the HSE which sets out the detail of the service and the exact funding that the HSE is providing for the delivery of this service. This Set of Schedules also identifies the quality standards and best practice guidelines to be adhered to in the provision all services, along with process for managing complaints in relation to service provision.

The service arrangement between the HSE and a provider is an important contractual document that sets out the funding provided by the state to deliver services. The HSE is statutorily obliged to ensure that providers are accountable for the services they provide.

The framework was introduced to implement the legislative provisions of the Health Act, 2004 and to reflect the requirements for public accountability where the HSE is legally obliged to account for all public expenditure on health and personal social services

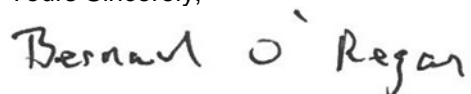
In 2021, the HSE had 38 funded Service Arrangements with Nua Healthcare for the provision of services to service users in all of the Community Healthcare areas. In addition to those funded through Disability Services, these include service arrangements funded also by Mental Health Services and Social Inclusion.

Whilst acknowledging the ability for Nua Healthcare to respond to delivering supports to persons with disabilities and/ or other conditions and requirements, this does present significant cost to the HSE. The table below gives information available on funding provided to Nua Healthcare.

Nua Healthcare	
Year	Funding
2012	No record of 2012 funding on SPG*
2013	€6,340,567
2014	€11,594,037
2015	€17,760,673
2016	€22,347,135
2017	€35,273,907
2018	€45,818,895
2019	€50,002,748
2020	€61,849,667
2021	€74,741,676

Please note:-The funding Information given is from the Service Provider Governance (SPG*) system. The information is as at the date indicated, and represents the funding arrangement allocations entered by the operational system. SPG is not a finance or payment system and figures will fluctuate on a continuum as updates on governance arrangement are uploaded

Yours Sincerely,



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

