



**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,  
31-33 Catherine Street, Limerick.

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

3<sup>rd</sup> August 2022

Deputy John Brady,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.  
E-mail: [john.brady@oireachtas.ie](mailto:john.brady@oireachtas.ie)

Dear Deputy Brady,

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: 41544/22**

*To ask the Minister for Health the number of adolescents with special needs who have just completed secondary school and have now been referred to another disability service for further education; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

**PQ: 41545/22**

*To ask the Minister for Health the number of adolescents with special needs who have just completed secondary school and are awaiting placement and or funding approval to be referred to another disability service for further education; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

**HSE Response**

The HSE is not charged with meeting the educational needs of adults with disabilities – that remit sits with other Government Departments and related agencies.

However, the HSE receive referrals each year from approximately 1,800 young people that are leaving school or Rehabilitative Training programmes and require a HSE funded day service going forward.

Each young adult that is referred is profiled by the HSE Day Opportunities /Guidance Officers to establish their support needs.

To date, in 2022, 1,843 people have been referred for a day service commencing in September. The support needs of each of those referred have been profiled and negotiations are underway with day service providers to identify the most appropriate placement for each person.

Once young people commence in HSE funded day services, a person centred plan is developed in conjunction with each individual to address their choices, dreams and wishes. Should an individual



express a wish to avail of further education, the HSE's role is to support the person to access an educational programme that is appropriate to their needs.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'BJH', 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**

