



Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
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16th June 2022

Deputy Richard Bruton,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: richard.bruton@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Bruton,

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 28312/22

To ask the Minister for Health the funding that has been allocated and spent in 2022 for additional residential services given that the Disability Capacity Review 2032 states that the additional minimum-scenario extra annual funding needed for demography only in 2022 for residential is €60 million, and the demography and unmet need for 2022 needed is €220 million.

PQ 28313/22

To ask the Minister for Health the reason that there are only 52 extra beds provided in the disability budget for 2022 given that the Disability Capacity Review 2032 states that the additional extra residential beds at a minimum needed for 2022 is 300.

PQ 28314/22

To ask the Minister for Health the amount of extra funding on the HSE Service Plan 2022 that was sought, allocated and spent to date to match the €80 million minimum requirement based on demography only for 2022 cited in the Disability Capability Review up to 2032.

PQ 28315/22

To ask the Minister for Health the amount of extra funding on the HSE Service Plan 2022 that was allocated and spent to match the €350 million requirement based on demography and unmet need for 2022 cited in the Disability Capability Review up to 2032.

PQ 28316/22

To ask the Minister for Health the amount of funding that has been allocated to the additional extra housing capital; and the amount that has been spent to date given that the Disability Capacity Review 2032 states that the additional extra housing capital that is required for disability services in 2022 based on demography only is €60 million.

HSE Response

The HSE welcomes the 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 HSE has worked collaboratively with the Government in undertaking the Capacity Review of the Disability Sector to provide the framework within which services could develop over the coming decade.

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.

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 Review accepts that significant investment across all health services over the period up to 2032 is required in tandem with a fundamental programme of reform. The HSE welcomes the work being done, lead by the Department of Health but involving other relevant Government Departments, to develop a comprehensive Action Plan to develop services on a “whole of Government” basis to meet current and future needs for disabled children and adults.

Estimates Process and Multi Annual Investment

The Health Act 2004 Section 31 (1) and (2) states that within 21 days after the publication by Government of the Estimates for supply services for the financial year or such other period as the Minister may allow, the Executive shall: a) Prepare in accordance with this section, a service plan for the financial year or any other period as may be determined by the Minister, and b) Adopt the plan so prepared and submit it to the Minister for approval.

Each year, based on government direction and the economic environment, the HSE establishes a process and accountability route to identify financial and human resource requirements for the following year for the totality of the organisation.

This typically includes:

Existing Levels of Service, Service Priorities, Government Policy, Strategic Direction of HSE and service efficiencies / initiatives.

Each year the HSE participates in the Estimates Process with the Department of Health and makes a submission for additional monies to meet the health and social care needs of the population it services.

The Disability Service makes submissions for additional funding for Day, Residential, Respite, Home Support/PA hours, Multi Disciplinary Posts and Neuro Rehab monies as a key element of its submission. Any new funding secured is allocated to the CHOs to provide services to those with the greatest need (priority basis).

The HSE makes every effort to secure multi-annual investment for services via the Estimates process and is very conscious of the need to deliver disability policy on a more sustainable footing given the significant levels of need for increased and more effective services and supports to enable people with a disability to live independent lives in their own community.

Priority Areas for Action Service Plan 2022 – Disability Services

In 2022, Disability Services has been allocated c. €2.3 billion to provide a range of services throughout the country and is spent in line with nationally agreed policy for disability services, whilst at the same time endeavouring to maximise value. Services include Residential and Respite Services, Day Services, PA and Home Support Services, and Therapeutic Supports.

With regard to Residential services, the HSE acknowledges that demographic challenges associated with the increase in the number of people living with a disability, the increase in age and life expectancy and the changing needs of



people with a disability have all led to the need for increased residential facilities. In this regard, the HSE continues to work with agencies to explore various ways of responding to this need in line with the budget available.

In accordance with the NSP 2022, the HSE has been allocated funding to provide a range of residential supports creating 106 additional places in response to current and demographic need through investment in 50 places responding to priority needs, 36 planned residential places, 10 supported living places and 10 intensive home support packages to support transitions and discharges from acute services and the National Rehabilitation Hospital. The HSE will also provide 12 residential packages to support young adults ageing out of Tusla services; and commence a demonstration project in Community Healthcare West to develop planned access to residential services.

New measures and target deliverables for 2022 are outlined in the table below. Work is on-going to reach targets in each of these areas.

New Measure	Description	2022 Funding €million	Target deliverable
Progressing Disability Services (Children)	Multi-disciplinary, administration and specialised posts for CDNTs	8.2	190 posts
School leavers / Day Services	An additional 1,700 day service places for school leavers and graduates of rehabilitative training	14.4	1,700
Decongregation	Provide 143 people with a disability living in congregated settings with more person-centred homes in the community	5.0	143
Additional Respite Houses	Establish three additional specialist centre-based services to provide 4,032 nights to 90 children, one to be Prader-Willi appropriate and the other two to provide high-support respite for children and young adults with complex support needs, in addition to seven further respite services which will provide 9,408 nights to 245 children and adults in a full year	7.7	10 houses
Respite Packages	Provide 53 additional intensive respite support packages to children and young adults.	1.3	53.0
Alternative Placements from Nursing Homes (63)	Support 63 people with disabilities (<65yrs) inappropriately placed in nursing homes to transition to more appropriate placements in the community	5.5	63
Residential Placements: Priority Support	Provide a range of residential supports creating 106 additional places in response to current and demographic need through investment in 50 places responding to priority needs, 36 planned residential places, 10 supported living places and 10 intensive home support packages to support transitions and discharges from acute services and the National Rehabilitation Hospital	13.05	50
Residential Places : Planned			36
Residential Places: Supported Living			10
Residential Places: Intensive Support			10
Residential Pilot			
Residential Placements: Tusla Under 18s	12 residential packages to support young adults ageing out of Tusla services	3.0	12
Personal Assistance Hours		3.1	120,000 hours



Home Support Services		0.8	30,000 hours
Capacity Building model (2 year project)		0.3	
Sensory Initiatives		1.0	
Digital Health Initiative 1.3m (reducing residential to accommodate)		1.3	

Housing

With regard to additional extra housing capital, the HSE and its funded service providers operate within a buoyant and competitive housing market. A tendering process, linked to multi-annual funding and the planned availability of housing in conjunction with relevant Government departments, will see the HSE move from being price takers to achieving a more responsive market with the best value being achieved.

The National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 - 2027

The National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 - 2027 has been developed by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH), in association with the Department of Health (DoH) and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) under the guiding principles of *Housing for All – A New Housing Plan for Ireland*. It documents the framework for the delivery of housing for disabled people through mainstream housing policy.

No one department or organisation can deliver on the vision of the Strategy alone. The delivery must be done in a coordinated and collaborative way, in line with the UNCRPD, with disabled people at the centre. Delivering on “Article 19 - Living independently and being included in the community”, ensures disabled people have equal rights in accessing housing and equal rights to accessing supports necessary to enable them to live independently within the community.

In addition to *Housing for All*, the National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 align with other disability services strategies and policies including as follows:

- *Time to Move on from Congregated Settings*.
- *Wasted Lives Report*
- *Sharing the Vision*
- *Disability Capacity Review to 2032*
- *The National Disability Inclusion Strategy 2017 – 2021*

It is important that all strategies not only align but promote the inclusion and effective participation of disabled people in their implementation.

For further information on the housing strategy for disabled people and plans going forward for implementation of same, please see:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/60d76-national-housing-strategy-for-disabled-people-2022-2027/>

Yours sincerely



Bernard O'Regan
Head of Operations - Disability Services,
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