



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

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5th April 2022

Deputy John McGuinness
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: john.mcguinness@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy McGuinness

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 14653/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of contracts won by an organisation (details supplied) in each of the HSE CHO areas; the commencement, end date and value of each contract; and if the Government procurement framework was used for each contract.

Details Supplied: Praxis Care

HSE Response

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 established a Governance Framework to cover funding relationships with all Non Statutory Agencies. The framework was introduced in order to implement the legislative provisions of the Health Act, 2004 and to reflect the requirements for public accountability whereby the HSE is legally obliged to account for all public expenditure on health and personal social services.

The HSE has more than 1,045 Service Arrangements or Grant Aid Agreements with approximately 419 organisations providing a wide variety of disability services on behalf of the HSE. These Service Arrangements and Grant Aid Agreements are covered by this Governance Framework.

Praxis Care is a major provider of services for adults and children with an intellectual disability, mental ill health, and acquired brain injury and for older people, including people with dementia. The group was established in 2002 by the merging of 3 well established charities in Northern Ireland. Praxis Care provides services across a broad spectrum of service user needs. Types of services they



provide includes, Residential Care, Outreach Support, Short break respite care, Day Activity and work skills and Accommodation and Support

Service Arrangements

The HSE provides funding to Praxis Care under S39 of the Health Act and 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

As Service Arrangements with organisations in 2022 are still being worked on, information is given regarding the 2021 funding/ Service Arrangements with Praxis Care

In 2021, there were 14 separate funded Part 2 Service Arrangements between Praxis care (Republic of Ireland) and the HSE. The start date for these Service Arrangements is the beginning of the year each year .i.e – last year this was on 01.01.21 and ending on 31.12.21. The total value of the Service Arrangements in 2021 was over €28 million euro.

Twelve of the Service Arrangements were funded via Disability Services and two were funded via Mental Health Services.

The funding in each CHO was as follows:

CHO 8; 10.4 million

CHO 9; 6.7 million

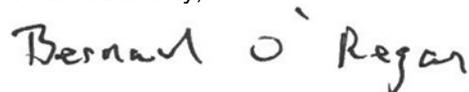
CHO 4; 4.3 million

CHO 1: 4.3 million

CHO 5: 1.5 million

CHO 2 1.0 million

Yours Sincerely,



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

