



**Leas Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta: Pleanáil Athraithe agus Seachadadh  
Seirbhísí Míchumais agus Meabhairshláinte.**

**Assistant National Director: Change Planning and Delivery  
Disability and Mental Health Services.**

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24<sup>th</sup> July 2023

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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: 35363/23**

*To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of disabled people that have been transferred from a congregated setting in 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023; the funding that was allocated in the same period to transfer disabled people out of congregated settings; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

### **HSE Response**

The Time To Move On policy is supporting people to progress from campus based/ institutional settings to community based homes with support. One of the notable long-term implications of de-congregation, is that it demonstrates ongoing commitment and meaningful actions in relation to UNCRPD.

In the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities General comment No. 5 (2017) on living independently and being included in the community, it is noted that to achieve implementation at the national level, “States parties may face challenges at the national level when implementing the right to living independently and being included in the community”.

The report goes on to outline 14 steps that States should adopt to ensure the full implementation of article 19 of the Convention, a number of which are dependent on the ongoing implementation of the Time To Move on policy and deinstitutionalisation of the congregated settings.

### **Status of Congregated Settings:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Transitions to homes in the community</b>
2019	116
2020	126



2021	135
2022	35
2023	25 – to the end of June

### **Funding Allocated**

In 2016, two specific funding streams were put in place for Decongregation:

1. Once off revenue funding under the Service Reform Fund Programme and the HSEs contribution to this was €10 million.
2. Once off capital funding of €100 million was allocated to the HSE from the DOH for the provision of houses for specific settings where there were significant environmental, fire safety, safeguarding issues and regulatory non compliances. Initially this was to be spent over a 6 year period 2016 – 2021 but the timeframe was extended to 2023.

No further funding was allocated to the HSE until 2021 when €4.135 million revenue funding was provided under the National Service Plan (NSP) with an overall target of supporting 144 people to de-congregate. This funding was allocated on an ongoing basis.

In 2022 revenue funding of €12.5 million was allocated under the NSP with a target of supporting 143 people to de-congregate. This funding was also allocated on an ongoing basis.

No further funding was allocated to the Decongregation Programme in 2023.

Yours Sincerely,



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

