



04<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Deputy Peadar Tóibín TD,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) 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: 28235/23**

To ask the Minister for Health if the HSE sought to acquire any of the private nursing homes for use as HSE public community nursing homes prior to them being granted permission to transfer change of use for alternative accommodation other than for residential care of the elderly; if so, how many; if the HSE plans to acquire other private nursing homes which cease operating in the future for the purpose of elderly residential and nursing home care given the shortage of beds in the sector and the increasing ageing population; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -

Peadar Tóibín

The purchase of private nursing homes is extremely rare and dealt with on a case by case basis necessitating a business case with Value for Money principles and to ensure continuity of service provision as appropriate in a geographical location.

To date, the HSE have not sought to proactively purchase private nursing homes whom have applied to transfer change of use for alternative accommodations. We are however aware of one CHO whom are currently in a 'Due Diligence' process of review for a site.

I trust this clarifies the position.

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Patricia Whelehan,  
Assistant National Director - Community Operations,  
Services for Older People