



4<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Mr David Cullinane, TD  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ 30367/23**

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Minister for Health has requested the HSE to respond directly to your Parliamentary Question;

**To ask the Minister for Health the average weekly cost of contracting a community step down or recovery bed.**

I confirm at this time they are approx. 700 short-stay beds contracted by the HSE from private providers nationally. These beds are available for patients who are ready for discharge from an acute hospital, but who may need some therapeutic supports to assist their ultimate return home.

The average national cost of these beds is €1,521 per week. The weekly cost comprises of the base NTPF rate paid to a private nursing home plus up to €500 to allow for physiotherapy, occupational therapy, dietetic and speech and language services if prescribed.

Yours sincerely,

**Fiona Hammond**  
General Manager  
Intermediate Care Lead  
HSE Community Operations, Services for Older People

