



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

Office of the Head of Operations,
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11th July 2023

Deputy Pauline Tully,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: pauline.tully@oireachtas.ie

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: 31254/23

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the capital allocations that have been made by his Department to the Disability Capital Programme in 2020, 2021 and 2022; the portion of this allocation in each of these years that went to provide community-based supported housing for people with disabilities being transferred from congregated settings; the portion of this allocation in each of these years that went to provide community-based supported housing for people with disabilities under the age of 65 years being transferred from nursing homes, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response

Wherever possible, people with disabilities are supported to live in the community and to access mainstream health and social care services. Specialist disability services focus on providing supports to people with more complex disabilities, and to complement the mainstream health and social care services provided to people with disabilities alongside the rest of the population.

Some of the key objectives of the HSE is to continue the transition of people from institutional settings to community-based services in line with Time to Move on from Congregated Settings policy and the recommendations of Wasted Lives: Time for a better future for younger people in nursing home.

Actions to achieve these objectives include:

- Continue capacity-building work in services to support the change from an institutional model of service to a person-centred model of support in the community.
- Work will continue to support individuals currently residing in congregated settings, to move into more appropriate community and residential settings.
- Continue to support individuals under the age of 65, who are currently residing in nursing homes, to move into more appropriate community settings or to enhance the quality of life for those who will be continuing their nursing home placement.
- Continue the implementation of the recommendations from the Ombudsman's report, Wasted Lives: Time for a better future for younger people in nursing homes, to enable transitions in to the community and reduce the risk of younger adults being inappropriately placed in a nursing home, with a specific focus on the National



Nursing Home survey and mapping project, model of service development, service access and navigation, funding, and informed consent, policy and human rights

With regard to the commitment to reduce and provide a pathway to eliminate the practice of inappropriately accommodating young people with serious disabilities in nursing homes and to facilitate where appropriate, people under 65s who wish to live elsewhere, the National Service Plan has allocated €5.5m for 2022/2023 and provided €8m to support existing levels of service. This is a total of €13.5m for 2023 to support this work.

Capital Allocation

The HSE Capital and Estates Service has provided following table below:

PQ 31254/23 - Disability Capital Programme 2020-2022			
Category	2020 (€m)	2021 (€m)	2022 (€m)
<i>Disability Decongregation Programme</i>	9.60	6.36	4.52
<i>Other Disability Services Projects</i>	13.40	3.68	5.89
Total	23.00	10.04	10.41

This table details HSE Capital Allocations to the Disability Capital Programme for the years 2020-2022. Disability Capital funding for these years was provided via the Department of Health.

The portion of the allocation that went to provide community-based supported housing for people with disabilities being transferred from congregated settings is included as the "Disability Decongregation Programme".

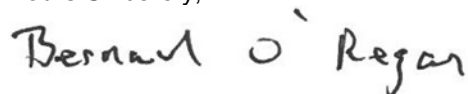
Details of the portion of this allocation that went to provide community-based supported housing for people with disabilities under the age of 65 years being transferred from nursing home are not available as this is not a category of expenditure tracked by HSE Estates.

The HSE is co-ordinating a programme of work to review and implement the Ombudsman's report, *Wasted Lives* recommendations for which the HSE has accountability. Through this work the HSE aims 1) to prevent and reduce the practice of inappropriately placing younger people with disabilities in nursing home settings and 2) to actively support individuals who wish to move into the community or who wish to be provided with additional levels of support to improve their daily lives while resident in a nursing home.

Disability teams are working with individuals to identify a range of accommodation options best suited to their needs; these can vary from moving back into the individual's own home or to more specialised housing, which are significantly at a higher cost. The types of community-based supports for people with disabilities under the age of 65 years being transferred from nursing homes is a mixture of own home supports and community placements. The Community Healthcare Areas (CHOs) utilise various resource areas to fund community placements, including the resources outlined in "Other Disability Services Projects" outlined above.

Note: U65 operational activity and the types of community placements is tracked by the U65 Operational Tracker. This tracker is updated on a monthly basis by all CHOs. Additional U65 expenditure against NSP 2022/2023 budget is tracked by the U65 Finance tracker which is also updated on a monthly basis by all CHOs.

Yours Sincerely,



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

