



**Oifig an Stiúrthóir Cúnta Náisiúnta,**  
Foireann Míchumais Náisiúnta,  
An Chéad Urlár - Oifigí 13, 14, 15,  
Áras Phlásóg na Rós, Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,  
Páirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta,  
Caladh an Treoigh,  
Luimneach.

**Office of the Assistant National Director,**  
National Disability Team,  
First Floor- Offices 13, 14, 15,  
Roselawn House, University Business Complex,  
National Technology Park,  
Castletroy,  
Limerick.

1<sup>st</sup> May 2024

Deputy Pauline Tully,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.  
E-mail: [pauline.tully@oireachtas.ie](mailto: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: 16779/24**

*To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the timeframe for the publication of the report on the Demonstration Project on Personalised Budgets; if the accompanying evaluation process will be completed in Q2, 2024, as reported in July 2022; the number that is currently involved in the project; and if he will give an update on the brokerage models frameworks proposed.*

## **HSE Response**

The pilot Personalised Budget Project is open to adults with a disability who are currently in receipt of HSE funded services across a broad spectrum of services, including day services, residential services and respite services. It provides participants with more control in accessing health funded personal social services, giving each participant on the Pilot Personalised Budget Project greater independence and choice in accessing services which best meet their individual needs.

The pilot Personalised Budget Project is currently in its demonstration phase and it is anticipated that up to 180 persons will participate in the project by either establishing a person managed fund where they are managing the service themselves, by entering into a co-managed arrangement with a current service provider.

Personalised Budgets represents a welcome reform within the disability sector and the publication of the Taskforce Report 'Towards Personalised Budgets for People with a Disability in Ireland' (July 2018) demonstrated the commitment to exploring the development of this service option in Ireland.

The HSE is committed to supporting the provision of health and personal social services but these must be in line with Government policy and the mechanism that is available irrespective of funding is the completion of a Service



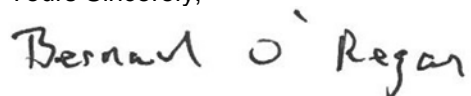
Arrangement documentation. The Service Arrangement is an essential mechanism to ensure that there is appropriate oversight of state funded organisations whether they are Section 38, Section 39 or Private for Profit organisations.

Key learnings from the Personalised Budget Project Demonstration Pilot will undoubtedly shape the way forward but all models must in line with HSE Governance Framework and have the appropriate systems for oversight in place.

To date, two hundred and ninety one adults have submitted an Expression of Interest in participating in the Pilot Personalised Budget Project and one hundred and twenty one are currently participating in the Pilot Personalised Budget Demonstration Project. A significant number of adults (<100) who submitted an Expression of Interest to participate have withdrawn from the project for a number of reasons. They indicated that they are satisfied with their current service provision, current service provision pivoted post COVID 19 or are presently receiving an individualised service at the moment inclusive of therapeutic interventions and transport.

It is anticipated that the evaluation of the project will be concluded by Q4 2024 and any proposed brokerage models will form part of the evaluation recommendations.

Yours Sincerely,



**Bernard O'Regan**  
**Assistant National Director**  
**National Disability Team**

