



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.

23rd July 2024

Deputy Cathal Crowe,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: cathal.crowe@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Crowe,

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: 29616/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the progress made in adult day services since 27 June 2020; the additional funding provided in successive budgets; his plans for 2024; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response

Day Services are a key component of support services that enable people to live within the community. The New Directions Policy, which was published in 2013, outlines the manner in which adults with disabilities receive disability day services. This policy is underpinned by the values of person centredness, community inclusion, active citizenship and quality.

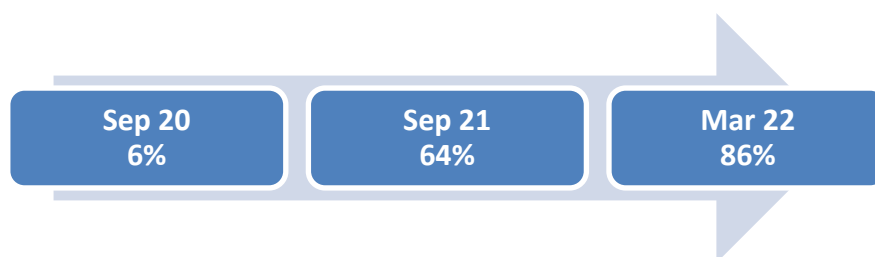
This policy is in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities which articulate the rights of people with disabilities to avail of the whole range of public services that are available to all citizens of the state. The guiding principle for HSE funded day services is that supports will be tailored to individual need and will be flexible, responsive and person-centred.

Further information on *New Directions* and the HSE's Day Services can be found at the following weblink: <https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/disability/newdirections/>



Progress made in adult day services since 27th June 2020

While disability day services were disrupted due the pandemic, 5,000 day people in residential placements continued to receive a full service. When disability day services were suspended in March 2020, resources were pivoted to provide alternative channels for people to access services through home support, and remote support. Additional funding of €30m was put in place to support resumption of services and provision of alternative homebased or remote supports. Day services resumed from late August 2020, albeit with reduced capacity due to the physical limitations of buildings, and social distancing requirements. Extra funding was provided to acquire additional physical capacity and to provide extra staff, to ensure that maximum quantum of services continued at a scale that could be provided safely to those most in need for the duration of the pandemic. The resumption of Adult Day Services report, March '22 indicated the 88% of people were in receipt of their day service supports. By September '22 Day Services had fully resumed.



Number of people in receipt of day services

Approximately 2,800 people are referred to day service each year. Day service placements are provided for RT and School leaver each year through either:

- a) New Development funding for RT/School leavers
- b) People who are not school leavers are allocated places from vacancies arising through the Management of Vacant Places process (MVP) introduced in 2022 and the management of Rehabilitative Training places. These processes maximise the use of funded placements and vacancies arising.

Currently over 19,300 people are in receipt of disability Day Service supports (excluding RT) at 1,091 locations around the country. These supports are provided by 97 service provider agencies.

The number of day services places for persons to attend day-disability services has increased each year.

Please see table 1 below which gives the number of people in receipt of day services for the years 2020-2024

Table 1

Year	Number of people with a disability in receipt of day services (December KPI)
2020	16,762
2021	17,734
2022	18,423
2023	18,963
2024	Approx. 19,300 (to date)



Additional funding provided in successive budgets

New development funding is provided for RT/School Leavers only. Please see table 2 below.

Table 2

RT/School Leaver Year	Full Year Development Funding
2020	€25.5m
2021	€34.8m
2022	€33.4m
2023	€32.2m
2024	€18.2m Part year

National Service Plan 2024

As per the National Service Plan 2024, the HSE will further implement the New Directions day services for adults with disabilities policy through the provision of between 1,250 and 1,400 new day service placements for school leavers and graduates of rehabilitative training.

Future Planning

Planning for 2024 day services is outlined in the Action Plan for Disability Services 2024 – 2026. Approximately 3,650 additional day service places are required between 2024-2026 to ensure places are available for school leavers and those leaving Rehabilitative Training.

The Action plan also outlines a number of actions under Work Stream 3 for Adult Day Services that includes:

- Progressing person-centred models of day services in more traditional services to provide a model of support that better reflects the principles of the UNCRPD
- Reviewing the cost of day service placements, including high cost placements to ensure equitable and cost effective service delivery.

Yours sincerely,



Bernard O'Regan
Assistant National Director
National Disability Team

