

16<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Mr. Eoghan Kenny, T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ ref 16606/25**

**“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 974 of 5 February 2025, the plans currently in place to increase funding for the Cork/Kerry region to expand the number of residential placements for people with disabilities; and if she will make a statement on the matter.”**

Dear Deputy Kenny,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to respond to your parliamentary question submitted to the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth for response.

As previously advised in response to your recent parliamentary question PQ ref 7191/25; HSE South West is funded on an annual basis and this generally includes additional funding for a small number of emergency places each year. As a commitment to multi-annual funding is not provided, it is not possible to plan for the development of residential houses. A funding commitment is required in order to develop these services with the not for profit service providers operating in Cork and Kerry in conjunction with the local authority where relevant.

HSE South West welcomes reference in the Programme for Government, to the exploration of multi-annual funding for the disability sector. HSE South West Disability Services welcome all and any additional resource to support people with a disability in our area. On receipt of confirmation of multi-annual funding HSE South West will work with the not for profit providers in Cork and Kerry to develop residential services to meet the significant existing demand. There are 600 people currently awaiting residential placements in Cork and Kerry who will benefit should the Government allocate multi-annual funding to HSE South West to address the deficit in the quantum of residential places.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely,

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**Ms. Angela O'Neill,  
Head of Disability Services,  
HSE South West**

