



National Lead for Palliative Care
Access & Integration
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Deputy Liam Quaide
Dail Eireann
Leinster House,
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05th February 2025

Re PQ No 2590/25. To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide a breakdown of palliative care services nationally, by regional health area, with an outline of the type and duration of service offered, and, in each instance, the funding commitment and the population size served by the service, in tabular form

Dear Deputy Quaide,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you above referenced parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health.

In Ireland, specialist palliative care services are delivered by the HSE in partnership with voluntary agencies to provide integrated, high quality and accessible palliative care to patients and their families. Specialist palliative care is provided by multidisciplinary teams in acute hospitals, specialist palliative care inpatient units (Hospices) and in patients own homes by community specialist palliative care teams across all six HSE Health Regions.

There are currently 14 specialist palliative care inpatient units (Level 3 Hospices) providing a total of 276 beds across the country. In 2024 there were 4,711 admissions to specialist palliative care inpatient units.

There are 32 specialist palliative care community (home care) teams covering all 26 counties in the Republic of Ireland. The specialist palliative care community teams work in close partnership with GP's and primary care teams to provide expert palliative care to both adults and children. In 2024 community palliative care teams provided care to an average of 4,259 patients each month in their own homes.

Specialist Palliative Care is also provided in 37 acute hospitals across all of HSE Health Regions. In 2024 approximately 16,700 patients received specialist palliative care in acute hospitals.

Children with palliative care needs also receive palliative care in the community via a shared care approach involving Paediatricians, Community Specialist Palliative Care Teams, GP's and Clinical Nurse Coordinators working collaboratively to care for the child and the family in the home setting. This model of care is in place across all Health Regions and is supported by the voluntary sector including LauraLynn Children's Hospice, Irish Cancer Society and Jack and Jill Foundation who provide additional in-home nursing and respite supports for families. .

In line with your request I have included a table below detailing the palliative care budget and population of each Health Region. It includes details of the specialist palliative care providers (both HSE and S38) who deliver specialist palliative care in each region as described above across acute hospitals, hospices and in the community.

Health Region	2025 Starting budget	Population	Providers	Hospice Beds No.
HSE Dublin and North East	31,701,281	1,187,082	St. Francis Hospice (S38) HSE North East Specialist Palliative Care	43
HSE Dublin and Midlands	46,682,356	1,077,639	Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services (S38) HSE St. Brigid's Hospice Kildare	49
HSE Dublin & South East	18,180,269	971,093	Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services (S38) HSE South East Palliative Care Services	47
HSE South West	24,952,271	740,614	Kerry Specialist Palliative Care Marymount Hospice Cork	59
HSE Mid-West	23,258,917	413,059	Milford Care Centre	30
HSE West and North West	28,480,612	759,652	Galway Hospice Foundation HSE Community Palliative care services HSE Northwest Hospice Sligo HSE Donegal Hospice	48

I trust this is in order and answers your query.

Maurice Dillon

National Lead for Palliative Care, Access & Integration