



**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,

28<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Deputy Cathy Bennett,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.  
E-mail: [cathy.bennett@oireachtas.ie](mailto:cathy.bennett@oireachtas.ie)

Dear Deputy Bennett,

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: 8757/25**

*To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the funding allocated to Enable Ireland in the years 2023 to date; the purpose thereof, by year, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter*

**HSE Response**

Enable Ireland was founded in 1948 as Cerebral Palsy Ireland. The first clinics were held weekly in the National Children's Hospital. Initially, assessment and treatment services were provided on a voluntary basis.

Enable Ireland currently provides services to over 13,000 children and adults with disabilities and their families from over 40 locations in 14 counties. Covering childhood to adulthood, Enable Ireland teams work with the individual and their family on a plan for each life stage.

The organisation's vision "*is to build an inclusive society which empowers people with disabilities and that we all have a shared responsibility to make this a reality*"

**Funding**

Enable Ireland is a voluntary organisation which is funded by the HSE under Section 39 of the Health Act 2004.

Enable Ireland enters into the S39 Service Arrangement process on an annual basis with the HSE for the receipt of funding for the delivery of services.

The Service Arrangement is a contract which underpins the release of public funds by the HSE to Service Providers and this document operates on the principles of contract law.



The table below is the most recent information available. It shows the funding provided to Enable Ireland from the HSE under Section 39 of the Health Care Act in 2023 and 2024.

Table 1

Year	Funding
2023	€60,043,593
2024	€63,965,281

(Please note:-The funding Information contained is from the SPG system is as at the date indicated, and represents the funding arrangement allocations entered by the operational system. SPG is not a finance or payment system and figures will fluctuate on a continuum as updates on governance arrangement are uploaded. In addition, funding information for 2025 has not been fully uploaded on to SPG as yet)

### Services Provided

Enable Ireland provides a wide spectrum of services for people with a disability.

### Childrens Disability Services

Enable Ireland provides and deliveries services through interdisciplinary teams. These teams of different health care professionals work together in partnership with children and their families and offer assessments, early year's intervention and education, training and support services, child and adolescence services and respite to children with a primary physical disability who need an ongoing team based intervention.

In addition, Enable Ireland provides the following specialist clinical services, which children can access by referral from their Primary Team:

- Feeding, Eating, Drinking and Swallowing
- Assistive Technology
- Spasticity and Tone Management
- Seating
- Upper Limb Assessment Clinic
- Orthopaedic Clinic
- Hip and Spinal Surveillance
- Prosthetics and Orthoses
- Casting
- Gait Analysis

### Childrens' Disability Network Teams

93 Childrens' Disability Network Teams (CDNTs), aligned to 96 Community Healthcare Networks (CHNs) across the country, are providing services and supports for children aged from birth to 18 years of age.

Enable Ireland, under the Progressing Disability Services framework, provides children's clinical therapy and support services in partnership with the HSE and other voluntary service providers in CNDT's.

Enable Ireland is the lead for agency for 20 CDNTs. Each CDNT provides support to children and young people from birth to 18 years with complex needs. These teams work with the child and their family to identify their needs and priorities.

The Table below provides a list of the CDNTs whereby Enable Ireland is the lead agency.

Table 1

CHO	Enable Ireland led CDNTs
1	Cavan CDNT
2	Galway city West Network15



3	Black Berry Park North Tipperary
4	South Cork City South East Cork City West Central Cork West Kerry
5	Kilkenny
6	Leopardstown 3 Mid Wicklow North Wicklow Sandymount 1 Sandymount 2 South Wicklow
7	Ballyboden Mid Kildare Tyron
8	Dunshaughlin East Meath
	Navan-Slane
9	nil

### Adult Services

Enable Ireland provides a range of services for adults with significant physical disability throughout Ireland. These services vary from region to region depending on need and resources. They involve a range of programmes based on a person-centred planning model. Supports cover:

- Training
- Employment
- Transport support
- Sport and Leisure opportunities
- Personal assistance
- Assistive Technology
- Respite
- Advocacy

Enable Ireland also provides centre based services using a hub based model to over 400 adults across eight counties aligned to the HSE's New Directions Programme. Services include centre based activities, supporting adults in their local community and access to an online virtual service.

### Residential and Respite Services

Enable Ireland are responsible for 10 respite and residential services for children and adults in six counties. This service provides long stay residential, residential respite, day and evening respite services. Respite can take place in the individuals own home, in their community or at a purpose built respite house.

As per the HIQA register of Respite/ Residential centres, Table 2 below provides a list of Enable Ireland Disability Services Registered Centres.

**Table 2**

Enable Ireland is the Registered Provider of the following Disability Residential Centres

Centre_ID	Centre_Title	County
2036	Ard na Mara	Cork
2031	Breakfree Lodge	Clare



2034	Harbour Lights	Cork
7715	Kilcar House	Carlow
8836	Kinvara Respite House	Galway
8054	Lavanagh House	Cork
2037	Rathmore House	Wicklow
2038	Silverpine House	Wicklow
5644	St Laurence	Cork
3641	Teach Saoirse	Tipperary

Further information regarding these centres can be found on the HIQA Inspection Reports website

<https://www.hiqa.ie/reports-and-publications/inspection-reports>

### **Family Support Services**

Enable Ireland also provides family support services that assist and support families in their role as care givers. These supports are provided in a variety of settings which include the home, educational settings and within the community.

### **Community Living Services**

The aim of this service is support individuals to live independently in their own homes within the community. Supports are targeted to the individuals need. Supports include meal preparation, assistance with personal care, shopping and household management.

### **National Assistive Technology Training Service**

This service offers a range of accredited and customised training programmes to support users of assistive technology to live the lives of their choosing.

### **SeatTech Service**

SeatTech provides a specialist seating assessment and prescription service; working in partnership with service users/owners and their primary service providers SeatTech work to provide users of the service with the information needed to select the wheelchair and special seating supports best suited to their needs. The staff also link with the HSE and equipment suppliers to source equipments on behalf of the individual that requires equipment.

### **Enable Ireland's Strategic Framework Priorities 2022 - 2025**

Enable Ireland has carried out extensive stakeholder consultations with adults who avail of services along with parents, careers and staff to assist with the development of their future strategy.

The following priorities were identified:

- Partnering – Adults, children and their families with whom Enable Ireland partner with are able to maximise opportunities and live their lives of their own choosing
- Development – Strengthen and expand existing provision and to develop new opportunities in line with need, government policy and innovation.
- People - Employing inclusive hiring and retention practices and developing staff to be the best they can.
- Advocacy – Speaking out on individual rights to influence policy and raise public awareness
- Sustainability – Ensuring robust governance in all aspects of the organisation.
- Leadership – Building capacity at all levels to support a modern, person centered and agile organisation capable of adapting and evolving.



Yours Sincerely,

**Bernard O'Regan**  
**Assistant National Director,**  
**Access and Integration,**  
**Disability Services**

