



13<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Deputy Peadar Tóibín,  
Dáil Eieann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Tóibín,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to this Department for response.

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of private and public nursing homes beds are registered in the State for each of the past five years; the number of nursing homes that have opened and closed in each of the past five years; the number of nursing homes places needed in the State at present and for each of the next seven years; and the average cost of a nursing home bed in the public and private sector.**

The number of Public Nursing Homes registered in the state for the past five years is set out in the table below:

**Bed Stock (Long and Short Stay Beds) in publicly managed and Section 38 Older Persons Residential Care Facilities 2021 – 2025 (YTD June)**

Year	Dec 2021	Dec 2022	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	June 2025
<b>Total Bed Stock</b>	<b>7087</b>	<b>6541</b>	<b>6387</b>	<b>6526</b>	<b>6337</b>

With regards to privately operated nursing homes, this information can be accessed through the HIQA website. HIQA is legally responsible for the registration of designated centres for older people. You will find the most up to date register available here: [Older People's Services | HIQA](#).

The number of Public Nursing Homes that have opened and closed in the past five years is reflected below.

**Number of Public Units Opened and Closed in each year 2021 – 2025 (YTD June)**

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	YTD 2025
<b>No. of Units Closed</b>	3	1	0	3	0
<b>No. of Units Opened</b>	2	0	0	3	0



The Capital Investment Programme is focused on refurbishing existing Community Nursing Units (CNU) and constructing new facilities to ensure compliance with HIQA regulations under SI293. While many of the projects involve newly constructed buildings, they are part of the broader CNU programme designed primarily to replace beds lost due to SI293-related closures. In essence, this is a replacement initiative that supports both the refurbishment of older units and the development of new ones, thereby ensuring full compliance with SI293 standards.

In some instances, residents from closed units have been transferred to newly built facilities, which has helped maintain overall capacity. In a limited number of cases, the programme has also resulted in an increase in capacity through the addition of new builds. The table above provides an overview of the number of closures and new facilities opened over the past five years.

Information relating to the number of Private Nursing home that have opened and closed in the past five years is available through [Home | HIQA](#).

The number of nursing home places needed in the state is currently being examined through a joint Department of Health and Health Service Executive Working Group which has been established to develop a plan for additional public Long Term Care beds in line with the Programme for Government. Findings of the ESRI Report will be considered and the exact locations and number of additional beds will be confirmed in due course. See a link to this report: [Projections of national demand and bed capacity requirements for older people's care in Ireland, 2022–2040: Based on the Hippocrates model | ESRI](#)

The average published/paid public Nursing Homes Support Scheme cost of care 2025 is €1,931 per bed per week.

The average actual private year to date cost of care 2025 is €1,266 per bed per week. The private weekly cost of care is established by agreement between the National Treatment Purchase Fund and private nursing homes.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

**Kathleen Jordan**  
**Head of Service – Access & Integration – Services for Older People**