



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
Treoiigh, 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.

15th August 2025

Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: richard.boydbarrett@oireachtas.ie

PQ: 4433125

To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the estimated cost of prioritising 460 people to move from family homes, congregated settings and nursing homes into the community.

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

Thank you for your Parliamentary Question referenced above, which has been forwarded to me for direct reply.

It is important to note that the costs involved in moving people out of their family homes into residential centres in the community or from congregated settings and nursing homes varies significantly in accordance with the support and care needs of each individual person and also if a new centre is required.

In some instances transitioning from a house on a campus (congregated setting) to houses in the community is cost neutral or minimal funding is required depending on the current set up on campus. In such cases, revenue funding and non pay budgets are currently in place and the staff will transition with the individuals.

The cost of any particular project is directly related to the scale and scope of said project. In addition, the cost varies depending on the requirements and needs of people availing of support in each location. The Design and Build and/or Purchase and Refurbishment of a building that meets all regulatory requirements, is also market dependent.

The capital cost for a new 4 bedded house can be up to circa 1 million to build to the specification required to meet the needs of people with complex disabilities

It is estimated that the cost related to staffing and operating costs for a new service i.e. standard 4 bedded house, in the community, for individuals with high support needs can be up to circa €2m per annum.

115 centres would be required to accommodate 460 people if new centres were required. This would cost €345 million.

The National Housing Strategy 2022 to 2027 places responsibility for the provision of housing with the Department of Housing and it is the responsibility of the HSE to provide additional supports related to care needs. The HSE and Local Authorities are required to work together to map the need and to develop plans for delivering housing to people with disabilities.

Importantly, the needs of people with a disability extend well beyond health service provision, and the health service will participate fully with other governmental departments and services in the development of cross-sectoral strategies to maximise access to services and supports for people with disabilities.



With regard to moving people out of Nursing Homes, Table 1 below, provides a summary of the average cost to support every 100 disabled people under 65 to move out of nursing homes into appropriate housing such as assisted community homes or supported living, based on the U65 records as of June 2025, and the % transfer to each community placement option and average placement costs to date.

Table 1.

U65 Community Transfers	% of Transfers to Date	per 100 Transfers	Avg. cost per placement	Total Cost
Residential Placement	44%	44	264,168	116233.92
Community Residential - Specialised placement	25%	25	210,341	5258525
New personal home	9%	9	203,894	1835046
Return to own/family home	22%	22	105,127	2312794
			Total	9522598.92

Yours sincerely,

Gerry Tully, Adult Disability Services, Access & Integration