



Oifig an Stiúrthoir Cúnta,
Cúram Priomhúil Rochtain agus Comhthathú,

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.
D08 W2A8.

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16th June 2025

Deputy Cahill,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 30745/25 To ask the Minister for Health if wheelchairs, rollators and other such mobility equipment supplied by the HSE are recycled; if so, the number of such units that are put back into use; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

- Michael Cahill

Dear Deputy Cahill,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to respond directly to you in relation to the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 30745/25), which you submitted to the Minister for Health.

In respect of wheelchairs, rollators, and other mobility equipment supplied to service users, it is the policy and practice of the HSE that, once an individual no longer requires a particular piece of equipment, every effort is made to ensure its return. This is either arranged by the service user through their local health service, or collection is organised by the HSE.

Returned equipment undergoes a full safety check, cleaning, and refurbishment process to ensure it can be safely reused by other service users. Each item is assessed individually, and equipment that no longer meets required standards or is uneconomical to refurbish is set aside. Where possible, these end-of-life items are sent for recycling to recover usable parts and materials.

In 2024, data show that 12,471 wheelchairs underwent full decontamination and safety checks and were made available for reuse. While the HSE does not hold specific data in relation to rollators, a total of 7,323 mobility products — which include rollators — were processed through the same decontamination and safety check procedures.

Local health areas are committed to refurbishing and reutilising equipment wherever possible. Items that cannot be reused are, where feasible, sent for recycling.

I trust this is of assistance.



Seán McArt

General Manager

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