Oifig an Stiúrthóir Cúnta Náisiúnta, Foireann Míchumais Náisiúnta, An Chéad Urlár - Oifigí 13, 14, 15, Àras 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,Limerick.

4th July 2025

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: david.cullinane@oireachtas.ie

PQ: 28589/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the cost of 1,000 and 100,000 personal assistance hours.

PQ: 28590/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the cost of 1,000 and 100,000 disability home support hours.; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -

PQ: 28730/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the cost of 10,000 intensive home care hours.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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

The HSE provides a range of assisted living services including Personal Assistant and Home Support Services to support individuals to maximise their capacity to live full and independent lives.

PA and Home Support Services are provided either directly by the HSE or through a range of voluntary service providers. The majority of specialised disability provision (80%) is delivered through non-statutory sector service providers.

Services are accessed through an application process or through referrals from public health nurses or other community based staff. Individuals' needs are evaluated against the criteria for prioritisation for the particular services and then decisions are made in relation to the allocation of resources. Resource allocation is determined by the needs of the individual, compliance with prioritisation criteria, and the level of resources available.

As with every service there is not a limitless resource available for the provision of home support services and while the resources available are substantial they are finite. In this context, services are discretionary and the number of hours granted is determined by other support services already provided to the person/family.

Intensive Support Packages.

This was a new development initiative put in place in 2020 and then further developed in 2021. The rationale behind the initiative was to demonstrate a person-centred approach to targeted supports designed to maintain the person in their own home and community, reducing a risk of future residential needs.

These intensive transitional support packages, as referred to in NSP 2020, were mainly aimed at children and young people with complex/high support needs experiencing substantial levels of need,

but who do not, as yet, require a high cost long term residential placement. The intention being to prevent family breakdown and demand for emergency residential placements by providing access to pre-crisis inventions such as:

- Intensive in-home visiting supports;
- Planned residential respite interventions;
- Specialist behavioural support interventions;
- Access to planned extended day / weekend and summer day based activities.

Costings

The cost of 1,000 and 100,000 personal assistance hours and 1,000 and 100,000 disability home support hours is as follows:

- 1,000 hours = €31,470
- 100,000 hours = €3,147,000

These rates are calculated on a rate of €31.47per hour.*

*The new rate of €31.47 will be introduced as part of the Disability Home Support Authorisation Scheme, which is due to be published this year.

The cost of 10,000 intensive home care hours is as follows:

- Home support packages are approximately 56 hours per package.
- 10,000 hours is = 178 HC packages (10,000hours /56 hours as each intensive HC package is 56 hours)
- 10,000 hours = (178 intensive home care packages would be) 17,266,000 (first year costs) to 20,050,632 (full year costs)

Yours Sincerely,

_____
Tom McGuirk,
General Manager, Disability Services, Access & Integration.