



25th June 2025

Deputy David Cullinane,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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

PQ 28678/25

To ask the Minister for Health the existing funding for community sector older person services, by service type, excluding home support.

As outlined in the HSE National Service Plan 2025, the Government has committed to a record health budget of €26.9 billion, with a total allocation of €1,700.7 million for Older Persons Services and €1,231.4 million for Nursing Homes Support Scheme (NHSS). This includes substantial investment in community-based supports, separate from the Home Support Scheme.

In 2025, key areas of investment in community services for older people, excluding Home Support, include:

1. Integrated Models of Community Support
 - Continued operation of over 300 day centres nationwide
 - Provision of transitional care funding, supporting up to 10,800 people in 2025
 - Expansion of community bed-based rehabilitation to promote independence and support hospital discharge
 - Funding for voluntary agencies to deliver over 2.7 million meals on wheels
2. Dementia Care
 - Investment in timely access to assessment, diagnostics, and post-diagnostic supports for people living with dementia
3. Nursing Homes Support Scheme (NHSS)
 - A dedicated budget of €1,231.4 million in 2025
 - Support for an average of 23,956 people, with a maintained average four-week waiting period for funding
4. Residential Premises Upgrade (RPU) Scheme
 - Allocation of €10 million to support capital improvements in nursing homes

Due to current limitations in financial reporting systems, a detailed breakdown of funding by individual service type is not available at this time. However, the ongoing implementation of



the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS) will, once fully operational, enable more granular, service-level financial reporting.

The HSE remains committed to improving transparency and accountability in how funding is allocated and reported, and will be in a stronger position to provide detailed data once IFMS is fully in place.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia Whelehan
Assistant National Director
Services for Older People – Access & Integration