



Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
31-33 Sráid Chaitríona, Luimneach.

Office of the Head of Operations,
Disability Services/Social Care Division,
31-33 Catherine Street, Limerick.

T: 00353 (0) 61 483369

22nd February 2024

Deputy Pauline Tully,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: pauline.tully@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Tully,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary question, which was submitted to this department for response.

PQ: 52542/23

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the estimated first and full year current cost of transferring 100, 200 and 300 people with disabilities out of congregated settings and into an assisted community home, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response

The HSE Time To Move On policy is supporting people to progress from campus based/ institutional settings to community based homes with support. The on-going commitment of the HSE to the vision of “*Time to Move on*” has been fundamental in bringing about meaningful and sustainable change for approximately 2,400 individuals since the programme began and is enabling these individuals to live ordinary lives in ordinary places in the community.

The HSE are committed to ensuring that planned transitions meet the individual’s specific needs and is in line with the individuals expressed will and preference. The Assisted Decision Making Capacity Act is fundamental to this process.

One of the notable long-term implications of de-congregation, is that it demonstrates ongoing commitment and meaningful actions in relation to UNCRPD.

In the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities General comment No. 5 (2017) on living independently and being included in the community, it is noted that to achieve implementation at the national level, “States parties may face challenges at the national level when implementing the right to living independently and being included in the community”.



The report goes on to outline 14 steps that States should adopt to ensure the full implementation of article 19 of the Convention, a number of which are dependent on the ongoing implementation of the Time To Move on policy and deinstitutionalisation of the congregated settings.

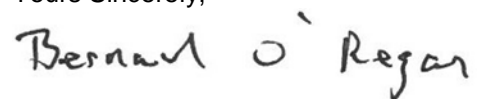
Costs

It is estimated that the cost, including staff and operating costs, of transferring 100, 200 and 300 people with disabilities out of congregated settings and into an assisted community home is as follows;

100 people - €40,000,000, 200 people - €80,000,000, 300 people -€120,000,000

Please note: the cost of decongregation varies in accordance with the support and care needs of each individual.

Yours Sincerely,



Bernard O'Regan
Head of Operations - Disability Services,
Community Operations

