



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisunta Cúnta,
Seirbhísí do Dhaoine Scothaosta –
Rochtain & Comhtháthú

Aonad 4, Lárionad Gnó,
Tullach Mhór, Co Uíbh Fhailí, R35 FH59

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Deputy Alan Kelly,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

6th August 2024

Dear Deputy Kelly,

The Minister for Health has requested the HSE National Community Operations for Older People to respond directly to your Parliamentary Question;

PQ: 30597/24

To ask the Minister for Health the protocols and criteria now in place to purchase private nursing homes across the State.

The purchase of private nursing homes is extremely rare and dealt with on a case by case basis necessitating a business case with Value for Money principles and to ensure continuity of service provision as appropriate in a geographical location. In such instances the HSE operates in accordance with the HSE Property Protocol and completion of a due diligence process will include the assessment of all relevant aspects and considerations arising and on that basis there is no requirement to develop further guidelines.

However Section 64 (1) of the Health Act says that if the chief inspector cancels a registration under section 51 and the cancellation takes effect, or obtains an order to cancel a registration in accordance with section 59 and the cancellation takes effect, the chief inspector shall notify the HSE of the cancellation and of the date on which the cancellation has effect.

In these circumstances the HSE will comply with Section 64 of the Health Act and step in to make alternative arrangements for the residents in a nursing home where the registration had been cancelled. Section 64 (2) requires the HSE as soon as practicable after notification to make alternative arrangements for the residents of the designated centre.

Yours sincerely

**Assistant National Director,
Services for Older people
Access & Integration**