



**Oifig an Stiúirthóir Cúnta Náisiúnta,**  
Foireann Míchumais Náisiúnta,  
An Chéad Urlár - Oifigí 13, 14, 15,  
Áras 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.

1<sup>st</sup> November 2024

Deputy Pauline Tully,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.  
E-mail: [pauline.tully@oireachtas.ie](mailto: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: 42036/24**

*To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the capital expenditure allocation for new residential places and decongregation in respect of persons with disabilities in each of the years 2021 to 2024, in tabular form.*

**HSE Response**

Residential services make up the largest part of the Disability funding disbursed by the HSE – almost 60% of the total budget – and approximately 90 service providers provide residential services to 8,603 individuals throughout the country. The bulk of these are provided by the 50 highest funded agencies (comprising both Section 38 & Section 39 organisations) – some 6,362 places, or 74%. The HSE itself provides 1,055 or 12% of the places. While 1,163 places or 13% are provided by Private-for-Profit agencies.

The HSE developed a Residential Capacity Database to capture the number of residential placements / contract capacity per the service arrangement between the nine CHO areas and the service provider agencies.

Please see the table below which provides information on the number of residential places at the end of December each year up to the end of September 2024.

Year	December 2020	December 2021	December 2022	December 2023	End of August 2024
Residential places	8,139	8,146	8,282	8,400	8,603



A number of new emergency residential places have been added to the residential base, which results in a capacity increase. However, it should also be noted that Residential Capacity will also reduce during the year as a result of the loss of places in congregated settings due to deaths, which cannot be re-utilised. This is in keeping with Government policy, which is to move away from institutionalised settings (i.e. Time to Move On from Congregate Settings) where the State is actively implementing a policy that will have a bed reduction impact. In addition, "in-year" capacity (bed) levels will also be impacted negatively as a result of regulatory requirements; that is, where an inspection outcome leads to capacity being reduced.

## **Decongregation**

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.

This proposed model of support envisages that people living in congregated settings will be moved to dispersed housing in ordinary communities and will have the same entitlement as any other citizen, such as GP services, home help, public health nursing services and access to primary care teams. This process has shown that families initially had concerns about their family member moving to the community however, meaningful engagement with families and individuals before during and after the transition led to successful transitions for all those who have moved to date.

Initial feedback shows that the lives of many individuals have been enhanced and they are enjoying a far greater quality of life than when living in a congregated setting.

The HSE is committed to ensuring that planned transitions meet the individual's specific needs and take full consideration of the individuals expressed will and preference. The HSE will ensure meaningful engagement takes place with family members and other key people who have a relationship with the individual in line with the Assisted Decision Making Capacity Act.

## **Expenditure**

With regard to the question asked, please see the table in Appendix 1 which has been provided by the HSE Capital & Estates office.

## **Future Planning- Residential places**

The demand for full-time residential placements within designated centres is extremely high and is reflective of the absence of multi-year development funding that has not been in place since 2007/2008.

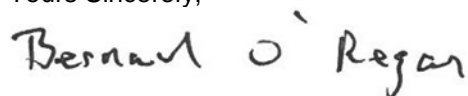
The Department of Health's 2021 Disability Capacity Review has projected a need for a minimum of an additional 1,900 residential places by 2032 under a minimum projection and an extra 3,900 in order to return to levels of provision prior to the beginning of the 2008 recession.

## **Action Plan for Disability Services 2023-2026**

The Action Plan for Disability Services 2024-2026, sets out a three year programme designed to tackle the deficits highlighted in the *Disability Capacity Review to 2032*, which identified the demand for specialist community-based disability services arising from demographic change, and considerable levels of unmet need.

The National Housing Strategy 2022 to 2027 places responsibility for the provision of housing with the Department of Housing and it is the responsibility of the HSE to provide additional supports related to care needs. The HSE and Local Authorities are required to work together to map the need and to develop plans for delivering housing to people with disabilities.

Yours Sincerely,



**Bernard O'Regan, Assistant National Director, National Disability Team**



## Appendix 1.

Table provided by HSE Capital and Estates.

Projects on the capital plan with spends in 2021 to 2023. Information for 2024 will not be available until early next year.

Disability including decongregation													
Project Ref.	IO Number	2024 Cap Plan Categories	HSE Area	County	Facility	Health Region	Brief Description of Project	Stage Current (Sept 2024)	Stage By End 2024	Funding Source	2021	2022	2023
14143	61003868	Disability including decongregation	Dub-NE	Cavan	Glencurran, Carrickaboy, Co. Cavan	Dublin & North East	The purchase and renovation of residential dwelling at Glencurran, Carrickaboy, Co. Cavan.	Construction	Complete 2024	NDP	0.290	0.015	0.754
14150	61004200	Disability including decongregation	West	Sligo	Abbeyville, Ballymote, Co Sligo	West & North West	Purchase and refurbishment of residential dwelling at Abbeyville, Ballymote, Co. Sligo for three residents.	Construction	Complete 2024	NDP		0.280	0.340
14151	61004180	Disability including decongregation	West	Sligo	Hadanem House, Carrigans Upper, Ballymote, Co Sligo	West & North West	Purchase and refurbishment of residential dwelling at Carrigans Upper, Ballymote, Co Sligo for four residents	Construction	Complete 2024	NDP		0.313	0.347
14152	61004128	Disability including decongregation	West	Sligo	Ursuline Housing Development, Sligo	West & North West	Purchase of two new houses for decongregation. HSE contribution to CAS funding (Sophia Housing).	Construction	Complete 2024	NDP			
14162	61005141	Disability including decongregation	West	Donegal	Ballinacor, Killygordon, Lifford, Co. Donegal	West & North West	Purchase and refurbishment of residential dwelling at Ballinacor, Killygordon, Lifford	Detailed Design	Construction	NDP			0.290
14124	61003564	Disability including decongregation	West	Mayo	Kilbride, Swinford, Co Mayo	West & North West	New dwelling on site owned by Local Authority. HSE contribution to CAS funded new build (Sophia Housing)	Tender	Construction	NDP		0.001	0.001
14134	61003846	Disability including decongregation	West	Mayo	Mount Gordon, Knockaphunta, Castlebar, Co Mayo.	West & North West	New dwelling on HSE owned site at Mount Gordon, Castlebar, Co Mayo.	Construction	Complete 2024	NDP	0.030	0.019	0.258
14135	61003862	Disability including decongregation	West	Mayo	Áras Attracta, Swinford	West & North West	Complete refurbishment of existing 8 bed bungalow on the grounds of Áras Attracta to provide a 4 bed Community Dwelling.	Appraisal	Appraisal	NDP		0.009	
14133	61003847	Disability including decongregation	West	Limerick	Pallasgreen, Co Limerick	Midwest	The construction of 3 dwellings at Pallasgreen, Co Limerick	Construction	Construction	NDP		0.071	0.161
14160	61004251	Disability including decongregation	West	Offaly	Dunkerrin, Co Offaly	Midwest	The purchase & upgrade of residential dwelling at Frankfort, Dunkerrin, Birr, Co. Offaly Avista	Construction	Construction	NDP			0.380
14136	61003869	Disability including decongregation	South	Wexford	"Avalon", Sinnottstown, Drinagh	Dublin & South East	The purchase and renovation of residential dwelling, Avalon, Sinnottstown, Drinagh, Co. Wexford for WRIDS.	Construction	Complete 2025	NDP	0.010	0.390	0.043
14159	61004242	Disability including decongregation	South	Wexford	"Ballycogley House", Crosstown, Killinick, Co.Wexford	Dublin & South East	The purchase & renovation of residential dwelling, "Ballycogley House", Crosstown, Killinick, Co.Wexford for WRIDS.	Detailed Design	Detailed Design	NDP			0.480
14153	61005065	Disability including decongregation	Dub-NE	Dublin	Specialist Residential Unit Ardeen House, Balcarrick Beach, Donabate	Dublin & North East	Construction of a specialist residential unit (280sqm) to decongregate six residents from St Michael's House, Baldoyle facility to Ardeen House, Balcarrick Beach, Donabate	Detailed Design	Detailed Design	NDP			0.052

