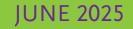


COMMITMENTS TO DELIVER ON NEURO-REHABILITATION WITHIN THE CURRENT PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT Complete the national rollout of community neuro-rehabilitation teams

> Develop more specialist inpatient rehabilitation beds

Implement community based multidisciplinary rehabilitation services in each HSE Regional Health Authority Area Call for Investment in Budget 2026 to Deliver on the Programme for Government Commitments to Neuro-Rehabilitation

PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION 2026



NAI are seeking funding in the upcoming Budget to show a clear signal of this Government's commitment to deliver on its Programme for Government pledges to Neuro-Rehabilitation

Ask 1

Complete the national rollout of community neuro-rehabilitation teams, promised in the Programme for Government, by funding four fully staffed teams for the Midlands, North Dublin, South East and North West.

Ask 2

Begin to deliver on the Programme for Government Commitment to develop more regional post-acute inpatient neuro-rehabilitation beds by investing in beds in Dublin Midlands and South West Health Regions.

Ask 3

Strengthen the capacity of the not for profit sector in providing and supporting the delivery of neuro-rehabilitation services.

Time To Deliver on Neuro-Rehabilitation Services

Ireland continues to have among the most underdeveloped neuro-rehabilitation services throughout Europe. The right to rehabilitation is enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, ratified by Ireland in 2018.

The Implementation Framework for the National Neurorehabilitation Strategy (2019-2021)¹ commits to providing:

- 1. Regional inpatient neuro-rehabilitation centres, providing a minimum of 306 beds (six beds per 100,000 population)
- 2. 9 community neuro-rehabilitation teams, one in each of 9 HSE community health organisation (CHO) areas.
- 3. Further development of specialist community neurorehabilitation services (including residential, transitional, community, home support and vocational rehabilitation services) for longer-term neuro-rehabilitation beyond the 12 weeks provided by the community neuro-rehabilitation teams.

Six Years on from the publication of this framework:

- The rollout of community neuro-rehabilitation teams remains incomplete. No funding has been provided to date for the remaining four teams to serve the South East, Midlands, North Dublin and North West (the North West is currently operating with just a quarter of the posts funded compared to a standard team).
- The report of the national Post Acute Inpatient Rehabilitation Mapping Project², published by the HSE in September 2024, revealed a shortfall of 175 neuro-rehabilitation beds across the country, with only 131 of the minimum recommended 306 beds in place.
- People living with a neurological disability in the community continue to experience serious challenges in accessing long term supports to meet their neuro-rehabilitative needs, as highlighted in the Phase II Report of the Joint Neuromapping Project³ published by the Neurological Alliance of Ireland, Disability Federation of Ireland and Health Services Executive in October 2024.

1 From Theory to Action: Implementation Framework for the National Policy & Strategy for Neuro-Rehabilitation Services 2019-2021 (2019) Health Services Executive 3 Report on the Neuro-Mapping Project Phase 2: Working Together Towards Integrated Care in the Community for People with Neuro-Rehabilitative Needs (2024) Health Services Executive

² Post-acute Inpatient Rehabilitation Mapping Project: A National Overview of HSE funded services (2024) Health Services Executive

#MYNEUROREHABTEAM Campaign Spokespeople

Eamon McPartlin North West



Eugene Hancock North Dublin





Bernadette Myler Driscoll South East

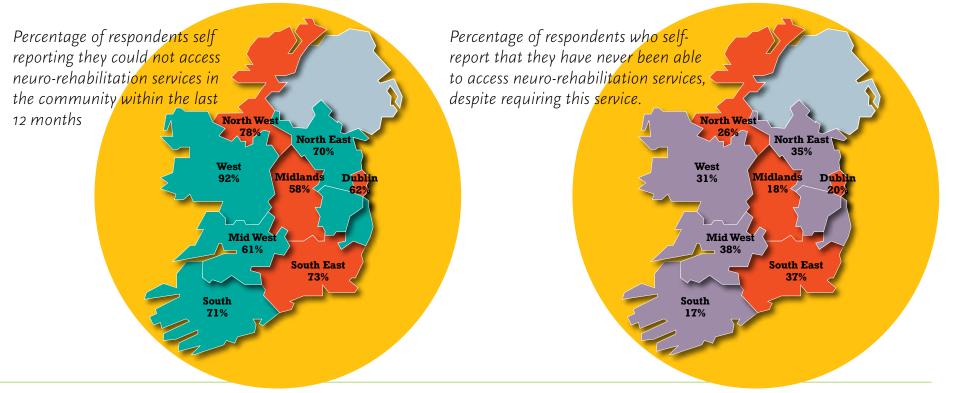


Liam Lynch Midlands

Ask 1

Complete the national rollout of community neuro-rehabilitation teams, promised in the current Programme for Government, by funding four fully staffed teams for the Midlands, North Dublin/North East, South East and North West.

Access to Neuro-Rehabilitation Services In the Community: Findings from the MY NEURO SURVEY 2024 NAI Patient Experience Survey In 2024, the Neurological Alliance of Ireland carried out a comprehensive survey of over 674 adults throughout Ireland living with a neurological condition⁴. The maps highlight access to neuro-rehabilitation services in different regions across Ireland.



4 The Right Care in the Right Place: Access to Services for People with Neurological Conditions Across Ireland

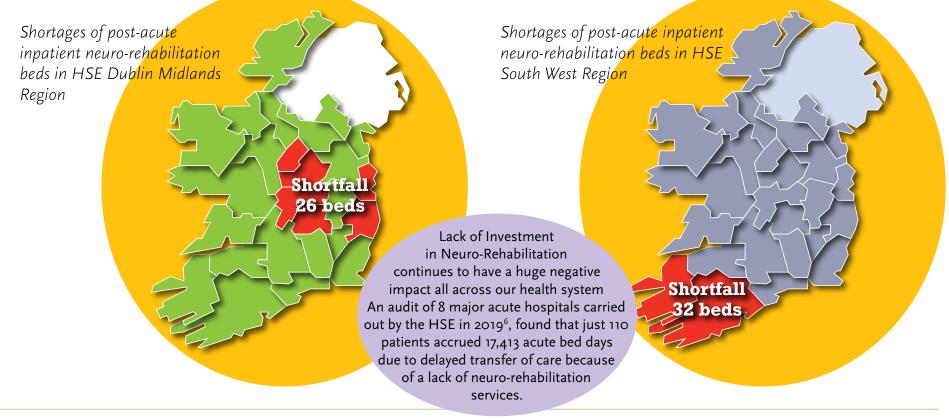
Ask 2

Begin to deliver on the Programme for Government Commitment to develop more post-acute inpatient neuro-rehabilitation beds by investing in beds to expand/establish neuro-rehabilitation networks for the HSE Dublin Midlands and South West Regions



Funding an additional 25 specialist inpatient neuro-rehabilitation beds for Dublin Midlands region Funding 20 inpatient neuro-rehabilitation beds for the HSE South West region

The HSE inpatient rehabilitation mapping report, published in September 20245, showed an overall shortfall of 175 post acute inpatient neuro-rehabilitation beds across the country. The deficits in post-acute neuro-rehabilitation beds across the HSE Dublin Midlands and South West regions are highlighted below.



5 Post-acute Inpatient Rehabilitation Mapping Project: A National Overview of HSE funded services (2024) Health Services Executive 6 Audit of delayed transfer of care among neuro-rehabilitation patients in acute Irish hospitals (2019) Health Services Executive

Ask 3

Strengthen the capacity of the not for profit sector in providing and supporting the delivery of neuro-rehabilitation services

The not for profit organisations under the NAI umbrella provide a wide range of services to people with neuro-rehabilitative needs in the community. The services they provide are crucial to enabling community neuro-rehabilitation teams and inpatient services to work effectively, providing a pathway to enable individuals coming from the hospital/specialist team to access the longer term vocational, residential and other key supports they need in their community.

NAI is strongly supportive of the wider call for action across the not for profit sector to protect the sustainability of the services provided by these organisation and echoes the call for steps within the upcoming Budget to deliver on the Programme for Government commitments to work with the voluntary sector to address the issues that impact on the delivery of services and the long term viability of organisations within the sector.



About the Neurological Alliance of Ireland

The Neurological Alliance of Ireland (NAI) brings together nearly 40 non-profit organisations to advocate for the rights of the over 860,000 people in Ireland living with a neurological condition. Founded in 2003, the NAI advocates for the development of quality services for people with neurological conditions. Our campaigns are rooted in the experience of our members and the people and families with whom they work. We provide a united and expert voice on neurological care through advocacy, policy development and awareness raising.

Further Information

For further information on any aspect of this submission, contact NAI Chief Executive Officer Magdalen Rogers mrogers@nai.ie 086 1216957

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS OF THE NEUROLOGICAL ALLIANCE OF IRELAND

Acquired Brain injury Ireland	Croí	Irish Heart Foundation	North West MS Therapy Centre
Alzheimer Society of Ireland	Dublin Neurological Institute	Irish Hospice Foundation	Parkinson's Ireland
An Saol	Dystonia Ireland	Irish Motor Neurone Disease	Peamount Healthcare
Aphasia Ireland	Early Onset Parkinson's Disease	Association	Polio Survivors Ireland
Ataxia Foundation Ireland	Ireland (EOPD)	Migraine Association of Ireland	PSPA Ireland
Bloomfield Health Services	Enable Ireland	Move4Parkinsons	Spinal Injuries Ireland
Brain Tumor Ireland	Epilepsy Ireland	Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland	Spina Bifida Hydrocephalus Ireland
Cheshire Ireland	FND Ireland	Muscular Dystrophy Ireland	The Rehab Group
Chronic Pain Ireland	Headway	Neurofibromatosis Association of Ireland	Vision Ireland
Crann Centre	Huntington's Disease Association of Ireland	Neurology Support Centre	



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