

**Kevin OConnell**

---

**From:** Kerrie-Anne Galvin <Kerrie-Anne.Galvin@ntpf.ie>  
**Sent:** Tuesday 22 December 2020 12:37  
**To:** Public Accounts Committee  
**Subject:** Correspondence from NTPF - Ref: S00047 PAC33  
**Attachments:** Letter to PAC - 22.12.20..pdf; Information Note for PAC 211220.pdf  
**Categories:** Correspondence for future meetings

**R0275 PAC33**

Dear Mr Savage,

Please see attached correspondence and Information Note from Liam Sloyan, NTPF Chief Executive for your attention.

I would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this email.

Kind regards,  
Kerrie-Anne

**Kerrie-Anne Galvin | Chief Executive's Office**  
National Treatment Purchase Fund  
Ashford House, 18-23 Tara Street, Dublin D02 VX67  
☎ (01) 642 7140 ✉ [kerrie-anne.galvin@ntpf.ie](mailto:kerrie-anne.galvin@ntpf.ie)



Tá an t-eolas sa ríomhphost seo, agus in aon cheangláin leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le haghaidh an tseolaí amháin.

D'fhéadfadh an t-eolas seo a bheith faoi phribhléid phroifisiúnta nó dhlíthiúil. Mura tusa an seolaí a bhí beartaithe leis an ríomhphost seo a fháil, tá cosc air, nó aon chuid de, a úsáid, a chóipeáil, nó a scaoileadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bharr dearmaid, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scrios an

t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

The information contained in this email and in any attachments is confidential and is designated solely for the attention and use of the intended recipient(s). This information may be subject to legal and professional privilege. If you are not an intended recipient of this email, you must not use, disclose, copy, distribute or retain this message or any part of it. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete all copies of this email from your computer system(s).

Mr Jack Savage  
Committee Secretariat  
Committee of Public Accounts

By email: [PAC@oireachtas.ie](mailto:PAC@oireachtas.ie)

22 December 2020

**Ref: S00047 PAC33**

Dear Mr Savage,

Thank you for your letter of 23 October requesting further material following the meeting of the Committee of Public Accounts on 15 October 2020 which discussed the Special Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Nursing Homes Support Scheme.

Please find attached a briefing note prepared by the National Treatment Purchase Fund addressing the issues raised.

Yours sincerely,



---

Liam Sloyan  
Chief Executive

**Note for the information of the Public Accounts Committee**

**Follow-up to discussion of the Special Report the Comptroller and Auditor General on the Nursing Homes Support Scheme**

**1. Details of the total elective care waiting list**

The NTPF publishes information on the following elective care waiting lists:

- The active inpatient and daycase (IPDC) waiting list represents patients who are waiting to receive an appointment for surgery or a hospital procedure.

Before the onset of the pandemic the number of patients on this waiting list was 66,705 (end February 2020). During the pandemic, the list peaked at 86,946 in May 2020. Since the recommencement of non-urgent elective treatments in May, the number of patients on this list has been declining each month and was at 72,843 in November 2020.

- The active Gastro Intestinal Scopes waiting list represents patients who are waiting for a GI Scope.

The number of patients on this waiting list was 22,705 before the onset of the pandemic (end February 2020). The number grew during the pandemic, peaking at 35,878 in June 2020. Since this date the number on the list has declined to 33,411 in November 2020.

- The active outpatient waiting list. Patients on this list are waiting for their first outpatient consultation.

The number of patients on this waiting list was 558,554 before the onset of the pandemic (February 2020). The number of patients on this waiting list grew at an average of almost 8,000 patients per month until reaching 610,996 at the end of August 2020. At the end of November 2020, the number of patients on the Outpatient Waiting list is 612,576.

In addition, the NTPF publishes data on Pre-admit, Planned Procedure and Suspension categories. As at the end of November 2020:

- The Pre-Admit data shows that 19,298 have been given a date for their Inpatient / Daycase or Endoscopy procedure.
- 88,984 patients are recorded in the Planned Procedure category and 63,584 of these patients have indicative dates in the future or have an appointment. These are patients who have already had treatment and require further treatment at a future date (e.g. a patient who has had a scope may require surveillance monitoring scopes in the future) and have been assigned indicative dates for treatment. These indicative dates are

determined by a clinician and treatment before these dates would not be appropriate. As more patients are initially seen and given a follow-up appointment for ongoing treatment or surveillance the number of patients on the Planned Procedure list increases.

- 17,645 patients are classified as suspended. Patients who are temporarily unfit or unable to attend due to clinical or personal/social reasons are categorised as 'Suspension'. The Suspension category is also used where patients are being treated through various Insourcing or Outsourcing Initiatives.

## **2. Details of the 38 reviews regarding price negotiations**

The Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General references 38 review processes up to 2018. A total of 18 of these (47%), commenced between December 2010 and 2012 14 of the reviews (37%) commenced in the three years 2013 to 2015, while the remaining 6 (16%) commenced in the three years 2016 to 2018. In total this represents around 2% of the negotiations agreed between the NTPF and Nursing Homes over the period. Over the period 2016 to 2018, the number of reviews represented approximately 1% of negotiations.

At the conclusion of these reviews, the average price increase with the 38 Nursing Homes who requested a review was 1%. The annual increase in the national average for all nursing homes was 1.3% p.a. between the end of 2010 and the end of 2018.

## **3. The percentage increase year on year of the cost of care in public settings**

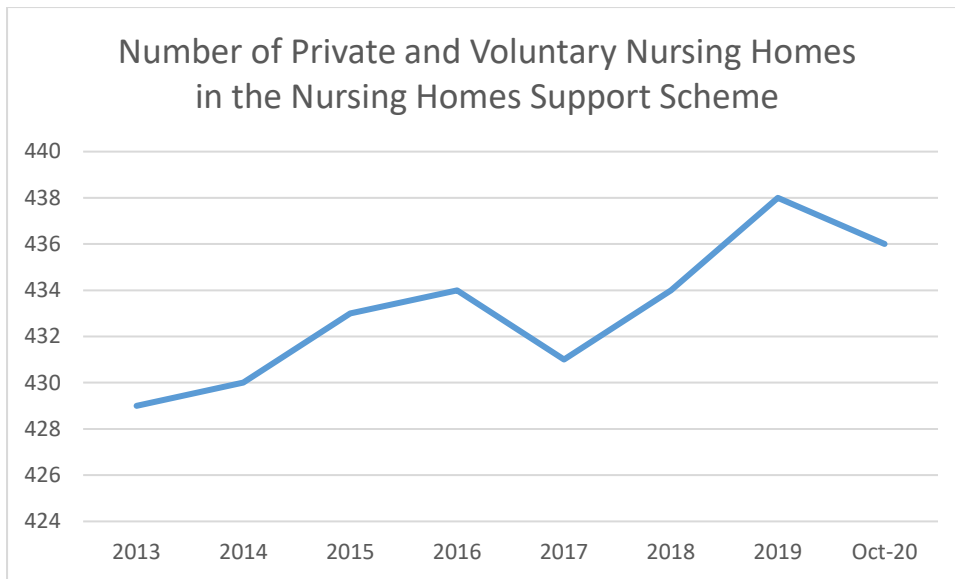
The NTPF commenced arranging hospital treatments with public settings in 2017.

On the basis of the 2017 casemix, there was 2.52% reduction in the cost of care arranged with public settings between 2017 and 2018.

On the basis of the 2018 casemix, there was a 0.02% increase in the cost of care arranged with public settings between 2018 and 2019.

## **4. A chart showing the year on year growth of nursing homes and nursing home beds**

The first chart overleaf shows the year on year growth of the number of private and voluntary nursing homes in the Nursing home Support Scheme.



The Chart below shows the year on year growth in the number of nursing home beds in private and voluntary nursing homes in the Nursing Home Support Scheme since 2013. Data between 2013 and 2019 is based on data collected by the NTPF under the negotiation processes, with allowance made for the periodic nature of those negotiations. Data for October 2020 is based on data collected under the Temporary Assistance Payment Scheme for nursing homes.

