Nua Healthcare Services

Improving Access to Primary and Community Care

Lynn Guthrie
Chief Strategy Officer
Thursday 19th November 2026

Nua Healthcare: Mission Vision and Values

Mission

To provide **person-centred** care, to support individuals to pursue a meaningful and fulfilling life and to be happy and contributing members of their communities.

Vision

To expand **whole system rehabilitation care pathways** for general and specialist disability and mental health services in local communities across Ireland.

Values



Key Operational drivers

Connected care pathways

Nua's combination of ID & MH residential and SLS offerings enables individuals to always receive the care they require, including enabling individuals to transition between services, when necessary, such as stepping up / down between specialist hospitals to residential care and to SLS.

Deep sector knowledge

Nua's leadership team has extensive knowledge of the Irish healthcare market and Nua's strong reputation and relationships with regulators is a key resource.

Excellent staff and specialist MDTs

Individuals under Nua's care are given access to specialist MDTs, which can include psychiatrists specialising in ID, MH and forensic MH, clinical psychologists, behavioural specialists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, junior doctors, nurses, dieticians and more. Additional, Nua hires and retains excellent, qualified staff.

Strong governance and quality care

Nua takes in the highest acuity ID cases in Ireland and currently, among private providers, are leading with its capability to manage higher acuity MH cases. Robust governance and quality systems ensure continuous monitoring, compliance, and top regulatory results.

Operational excellence

Nua has high operational standards, with numerous IT systems, digital transformation programs, and a strategic plan that ensure efficiency, sustainability, and value.

NUA HEALTHCARE SERVICES

2004 | 2009 | 2013 | 2016 | 2018 | 2019 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY (ID)

- 2004 — Nua Healthcare Services is founded
- 2009 — First in ROI to achieve NAS Autism Accreditation
- 2013 — HIQA regulation of residential ID services
- 2016 — First CARF accreditation across Nua ID services
- 2018 — National service footprint established
- 2019 — CARF accreditation renewed across ID Services
- 2023 — ID services grow to 79 HIQA-registered centres
- 2025 — 102 services / 462 ID beds
- 2026 — 111 services / 479 ID beds

MENTAL HEALTH (MH)

- 2018 — First specialist Approved Centre (SRU) opens
- 2019 — First MH community residence opens
- 2023 — First dedicated CARF accreditation of MH Services
- 2025 — First specialist Approved Centre (LSU) opens
- 2026 — 9 services / 117 beds

SUPPORTED LIVING (SLS)

- 2009 — SLS Office in Kildare opens
- 2013 — SLS Office in Dublin opens
- 2018 — SLS Office for ROI opens
- 2024 — SLS Office in the Midlands opens
- 2025 — SLS Office in Cork opens
- 2026 — Nationwide SLS across all 6 HSE regions

COMMUNITY SERVICES (CS)

- 2023 — 1st CLaD Hub opens in Kildare
- 2024 — 2nd & 3rd CLaD Hubs open in Westmeath & Cork
- 2025 — 4th & 5th CLaD Hubs open / Mobile CLaD & Sensory Units launch
- 2026 — 7 CLaD Hubs operating nationally 5 static + 2 Mobile

NUA TODAY 2026

596 Residential Beds

130+ Services / Locations

ID • MH • SL • CS Service Types

3,000+ Employees

170+ Clinical Team

7 CLaD Hubs

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Abbey Blooms Botanical Gardens - 2021.
Nua's Caregiver Empowerment Programme - 2023.

SERVICE DEVELOPMENT 2025 - 2035

1,216 Residential Beds

250+ Services / Locations

ID • MH • SL • CS • CMHT* Service Types

6,000+ Employees

375+ Clinical Team

18 CLaD Hubs

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

ASCEND Park - 2027.

Covid-19: Pandemic to Endemic Phase

Nua Healthcare Services | HIQA Compliance: 96%

Nua Healthcare Services | MHC Compliance: 92.5%

* Community Mental Health Teams

Nua Healthcare: National Scale

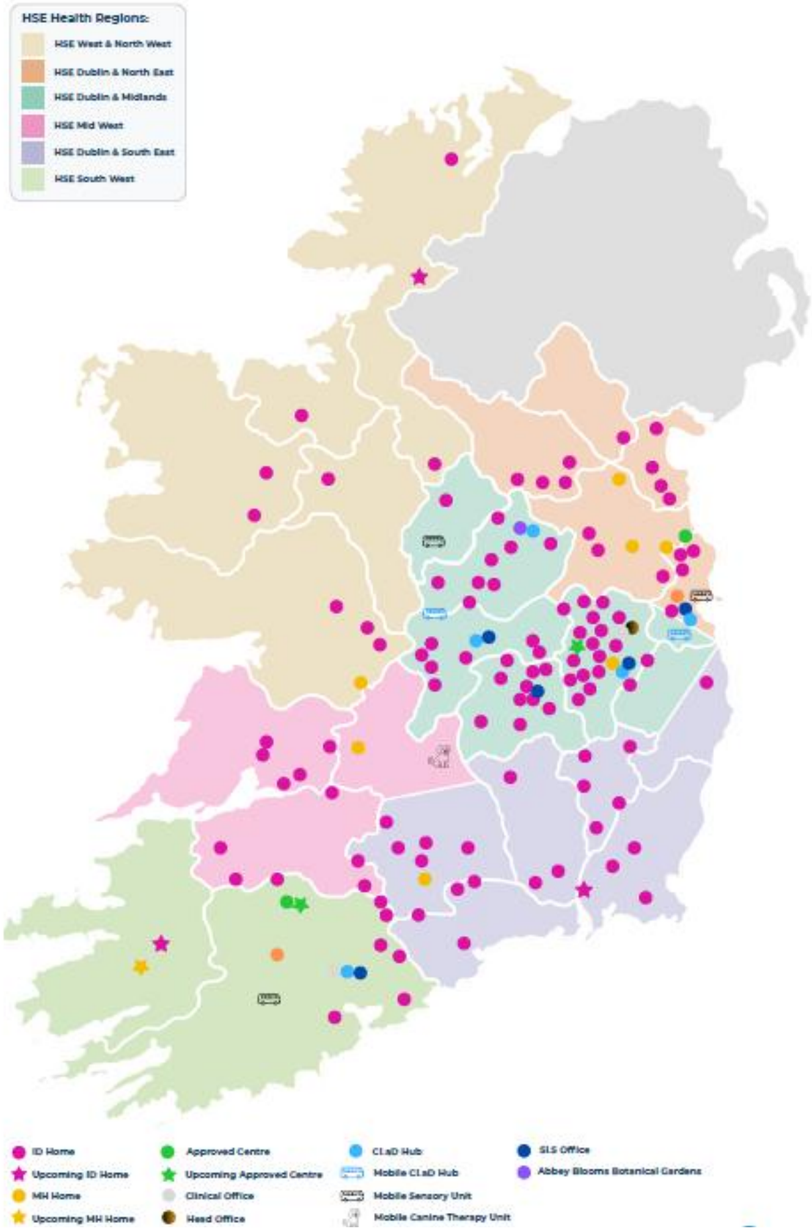
NUA TODAY | 2026

130+
SERVICES / LOCATIONS

600+
RESIDENTIAL BEDS

3,500+
EMPLOYEES

170+
CLINICAL TEAM



Understanding the Scale of Need

Population Size, Complexity & Specialist Requirements

National context | Census 2022

109,288

People reporting an intellectual disability

269,789

People reporting a long-lasting psychological, emotional or mental health condition

46% of people reporting an intellectual disability (50,708 of 109,288) also reported a psychological, emotional or mental health condition.

The challenge is not simply the number of people requiring support, but the complexity and diversity of their needs.

Source: CSO, Census of Population 2022, Profile 4 – Disability, Health and Carers. Figures relate to Census-reported conditions, not individuals registered as requiring specialist services.

Demand, Capacity & the Growing Gap

Increasing Demand for Specialist ID and Mental Health Services

Residential Services

INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY

7,400 people in intellectual disability residential care (2024)

1,100 estimated immediate unmet residential demand

2,000 – 4,000 projected residential place gap by 2032

MENTAL HEALTH

1,920 estimated people receiving specialist low secure, rehabilitation/long-stay and community residential services (2025)

770 – 855 estimated unmet places across those three specialist service categories

Demand projected to increase to 2032 across specialist mental health services

Community Outpatient Services

- Significant waiting lists exist for an Assessment of Need (AON) for children and a growing number of adolescents. Consequently, access to services to meet assessed needs is being delayed, in some instances for years. At the beginning of 2026, the waiting list for an AON was estimated to be in excess **25,000** children.
- Significant demand and capacity constraints also exist for community-based ID and MH services contributing to a system-wide culture of crisis response services for individuals denied assessment and early intervention.

Sources: Figures include market estimates and scenario-based projections informed by national datasets. Newspaper reports 2025, HSE, Bernard Gloster

Sláintecare: The Right Policy, Established in 2017

A cross-party vision for integrated, person-centred healthcare

RIGHT CARE

Appropriate to assessed needs

RIGHT PLACE

Delivered in the most suitable setting

RIGHT TIME

Accessible when required

The policy direction is clear. The challenge is delivering it consistently across the entire care journey.

Sources: Sláintecare Report, May 2017 | Government Implementation Strategy, July 2018.

The Cost of Gaps in Care

When Appropriate Care Is Unavailable, Needs Can Escalate

01

GAPS IN EARLY INTERVENTION

Delayed diagnosis and access to appropriate supports

02

UNMET ASSESSED NEEDS

Insufficient specialist provision

03

ESCLATING COMPLEXITY

Greater reliance on acute and specialist services

04

HIGHER LONG-TERM COST

Longer periods of resource heavy care and increased expenditure

The absence of appropriate care at the right time can carry human and financial costs.

We cannot resolve every challenge facing the healthcare system,

but we can organise ourselves to make a meaningful difference.

Nua's Response: Person and Community Centric

Putting the principles of Sláintecare into practice

EARLY INTERVENTION

Caregiver Empowerment Programme

Empowering families and caregivers with **free** education, guidance and practical **self-help** resources.

COMMUNITY WELLBEING

ASCEND Park

Providing **free** access to an inclusive, therapeutic outdoor environment that promotes **self-help**, development, independence and community participation.

LIFELONG LEARNING

CLaD Hubs:
Continuous **L**earning **a**nd **D**evelopment

Supporting independence, personal development and meaningful community participation.

INTEGRATED CARE

Specialist ID & MH Services

Providing coordinated care pathways that respond to changing individual needs.

Advocating self-help, proactively developing services to meet initial, ongoing and specialist needs.

Integrated Services

Delivering Better Outcomes Through Collaboration

WHERE WE ARE

- Delivering individual services & placements
- Responding to immediate service requirements
- Working within existing capacity
- Measuring individual service delivery

WHERE WE NEED TO GO

- Joint planning of integrated care pathways
- Anticipating future population needs
- Developing appropriate specialist capacity together
- Measuring outcomes and whole-life value

Together, we can achieve what no single provider can deliver alone.

The Way Forward

Better outcomes through integrated services and expanded partnerships

ANTICIPATE NEED

Plan services around emerging and future demand

INTEGRATE CARE

Develop comprehensive pathways across the life cycle

PARTNER FOR IMPACT

Work collaboratively to deliver sustainable solutions

The ambition of Sláintecare is achievable — delivering it requires us to work together.

Thank you all for your time.

