

From: Individual
Sent: 03 December 2025 12:11
To: +Comm Executive Public Email <Committee.Executive@niassembly.gov.uk>
Subject: Wave Services for Individuals impacted by Private Nursing Homes

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to raise concerns about how support services are currently being presented to individuals impacted by historical institutional practices, specifically those linked to private nursing homes.

Recently, I contacted WAVE to clarify whether their services extend to individuals impacted by private nursing homes. My initial enquiry was met with a categorical refusal, stating that services were offered *only* to those affected by Mother and Baby Homes and Magdalene Laundries. When I pointed out that the Independent Truth Recovery Panel has already taken testimony from individuals affected by private nursing homes, I received a further response stating that private nursing homes are not included in the Draft Bill, although “some” services *may* be available.

A telephone discussion was offered, but I requested written clarification. The response provided was a list of private nursing homes taken from the Independent Panel’s website along with a generic WAVE services leaflet. Although I am relieved that WAVE is now indicating that services may be available, the lack of clarity, the initial refusal, and the shifting position are extremely concerning.

For many individuals associated with private nursing homes, shame and secrecy have already acted as significant barriers to coming forward. When someone takes the difficult step of seeking support after engaging with the Truth Recovery process in good faith, a refusal or unclear message about eligibility can be profoundly retraumatising. This experience risks discouraging participation and undermines confidence in the system at a crucial time.

The inconsistency in support provision also appears to show that a **hierarchy of victims is already emerging**, with those affected by private nursing homes receiving different treatment and uncertainty around their entitlement to services. This situation seems to stem directly from the wording of the Draft Bill, which does not clearly include or exclude private nursing homes within the scope of support measures. As a result, organisations tasked with providing support appear unsure of their mandate, and this ambiguity is already having concerning consequences.

I have suggested to WAVE that eligibility should be clearly communicated and accessible for individuals affected by private nursing homes and similar institutions. While they have stated that this has been noted, there seems to be no clear plan to address the problem. Given these concerns, I would be grateful if the Committee could consider:

1. What protections or assurances will be put in place within the legislation to ensure equal access to support services for those affected by private nursing homes?
2. Whether the Committee recognises that the current ambiguity in the Draft Bill is already affecting service delivery, and what steps can be taken to address this urgently.

3. Whether guidance will be issued to support organisations to prevent further inconsistency, refusal, or retraumatisation of individuals already engaged with the Truth Recovery process.

Thank you for considering this matter. I would welcome any clarification or action the Committee can take to ensure fair and consistent support for all individuals engaging with the Truth Recovery process.

Yours sincerely,

Individual