



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Head of Service,
Social Care Division
HSE Mid West Community Healthcare
Ballycummin Avenue
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11th December, 2019

Deputy Niall Collins TD
Red House Hill
Patrickswell
Co. Limerick

RE: PQ 50334/19

To ask the Minister for Health, if funding for a group (details supplied) will be secured; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dochas, Parnell St. Limerick

Dear Deputy Collins

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Hope for People with Autism (Dóchas) is an awareness and information centre based in Limerick offering information and support to their members. Funding of €50,236 is provided from HSE Disability Services on an annual basis. This funding is towards the cost of the Centre Manager's salary and towards the running costs of the organisation. In addition they received the following lottery funding on the condition that they met the criteria for approval.

- Lottery: 2019 granted €3,000 as a contribution to the running of a 4 month pilot project to increase music therapy hours so that more children can benefit.
- Lottery: 2018 - agency did not apply as the Centre Manager's post was vacant.
- Lottery: 2017 granted €2,000 contribution to purchase books for the library.
- Lottery: 2016 - application received after the closing date
- Lottery: 2015 granted €2,000 contribution to purchase furnishings for the sensory room

It is noted that the agency has increased the services they provide. However the HSE agreed only to fund the Administration costs including salary at the time of approval as this agency was set up as a support for families.

Should this organisation wish to apply for additional funding through either the HSE or another Government Department they should submit a Business Plan to the relevant department for consideration.

I trust this information is of assistance to you and should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely



Mary O'Brien
Head of Service - Social Care
HSE Mid West Community Healthcare