



Wednesday 16th January 2019
Deputy Louise O'Reilly,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ Ref. No. 54494/18 - To ask the Minister for Health the reason there is a variance in the amount paid for children's dispensing from initial consultation to final review under the HSE contract between local and community areas

- Louise O'Reilly

Dear Deputy Louise O'Reilly,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

The HSE provides a standard rate for the provision of glasses through the Primary Care Reimbursement Service (PCRS). Children are awarded varying amounts depending on their prescription.

While this is a standard allowance available through PCRS, there may be variance between Community Health Organisations due to local area arrangements. There are 9 Community Health Organisations (CHOs) who are allocated budgets to fund services in their area. Each CHO has the autonomy to spend these budgets in a way that best meets the specific needs of their area, as such variance can exist between different areas.

The HSE is committed to ensuring that all eligible service users have access to the relevant and applicable standard allowances to support optimum vision throughout childhood.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Siobhán McArdle,
Head of Operations Primary Care,
Community Operations