



Oifig an Cheannasaí Oibríochtaí & Feabhsúcháin Seirbhíse  
Seirbhíse do Dhaoine Scothaosta

Office of the Head of Operations & Service Improvement  
Services for Older People

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24/07/2019

**Deputy Stephen Donnelly, TD**  
Dáil Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

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

**PQ - Ref 30934/19**

To ask the Minister for Health the estimated full year cost of amending the fees charged under the NHSS to enable nursing home residents with an assessed weekly income of €300 or less to retain a minimum of €60 weekly.

The estimated full year cost of increasing the minimum retained income threshold for a single person from the current rate of 20% of the non-contributory State pension at date of application to €60 per week and for a couple to the non-contributory old age pension at date of application plus €60 per week is €9.2m.

This estimate was calculated based on clients in nursing home care under the NHSS on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July 2019. The calculation includes single applicants with a total income of €300 or less and couples with a combined total income of €600 or less.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sandra Tuohy', written over a horizontal line.

**Sandra Tuohy**  
Assistant National Director, Head of Operations & Service Improvement  
Services for Older People