



Office of the Head of Operations Primary Care, Community Operations
Dr. Steevens Hospital, Dublin 8, DO8 W2A8
Tel: 01-6352682 Email: community.primarycare@hse.ie

Oifig Ceann na n-Oibríochtaí, Cúraim Phríomhúil, Oibríochtaí Pobail
Ospidéal Dr. Steevens' Baile Atha Cliath 8, DO8 W2A8
T 01 6352682 R: community.primarycare@hse.ie

13th November 2019

Deputy Michael Fitzmaurice,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 44503/19 - To ask the Minister for Health if emergency funding is available through his Department or the HSE for communities to purchase or replace defibrillators in their respective areas; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-Michael Fitzmaurice

Dear Deputy Fitzmaurice,

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.

An automated external defibrillator (AED) is a medical device that analyses a person's heart rhythm and, when needed, delivers a shock to sudden cardiac arrest victims who are in a shockable heart rhythm. When used correctly, a defibrillator can improve a person's survival chances following sudden cardiac arrest.

Emergency funding is not available for the purchase of defibrillators for communities, however, the HSE distributes National Lottery funding to community groups and voluntary organisations under the National Lottery Grant Scheme.

Groups and organisations who provide Health and Personal Social Services can apply for funding to their local Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO). Amounts of between €500 and €10,000 are available for suitable projects.

The HSE has approved funding by National Lottery payments to Community First Responders in each of 2015; 2016; 2017; 2018.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

PP

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Siobhán McArdle', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Siobhán McArdle,
Head of Operations Primary Care,
Community Operations