

National Director, Community Operations

Dr. Steevens Hospital, Dublin 8, DO8 W2A8 Tel: 01 6352596 Email: communityoperations@hse.ie

Stiurthoir Naisiunta, Oibríochtaí Pobail

Ospidéal Dr. Steevens' Baile Atha Cliath 8, DO8 W2A8 T 01 6352596 R: communityoperations@hse.ie

8<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Deputy Peter Burke, Dáil Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

PQ Ref. No. 39705/19

To ask the Minister for Health if there is a national HSE policy for assessment and provision of powered mobility equipment, for example, powered wheelchairs and mobility scooters; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-Peter Burke

Dear Deputy Burke,

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

The HSE provide aids and appliances including powered wheelchairs to eligible service users on foot of a request from the appropriate health care professional (Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist). This is as a result of a complex assessment ascertaining need, safety, and specific requirements.

The undertaking of this assessment is governed by a national policy, a copy of which is attached. The purpose of this policy is to help ensure a standardised approach to the assessment and provision of HSE funded powered mobility equipment to clients in a community setting. Its application helps ensure that clients/carers needs are comprehensively assessed, and that when the equipment is provided, clients are adequately trained in its safe and proper use.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

David Walsh, National Director,

Community Operations

Faun

Burley Health Service