



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Social Care
South East Community Healthcare
c/o Community Care Headquarters

James' Green
Kilkenny

22nd October 2019

Mr. Bobby Aylward T.D.
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin

PQ 40862/19

To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider implementing multi annual budgets to support planned service for section 39 agencies such as an organisation (SOS Kilkenny Ltd, Archersleas, Kilkenny) in advance of Budget 2020; his plans for the provision of additional funding to assist such agencies meet their deficits in respect of unmet business cases; his further plans for the provision of additional funding to assist such agencies to meet changing needs and emergency placements; the position regarding new respite services for Kilkenny; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Aylward,

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

I have examined the matter and the following response outlines the current position.

South East Community Healthcare (SECH) delivers a wide range of disability services including respite to children and adults residing in the South East. As part of this service provision, we are committed to ensuring an equitable and fair approach to service delivery in line with budget allocation. This includes the annual delivery of disability services and the planning of services into the future.

To ensure the continued provision of respite services across the South East, a Task Force Group has been established to review respite services and ensure delivery in a fair and equitable way that meets the needs of the service users. Membership of this Task Force Group includes all Section 38/39 providers of respite across the SECH.

In respect of all requests for new or additional supports for disability clients, there is a nationally agreed process in place as outlined in the HSE National Policy on Managing Residential Placement 2nd Edition 2019, which came into effect in 2016 with implementation across South East Community Healthcare (SECH) towards the end of 2017 and early 2018.

All request for additional supports are captured on a Disability Supports Application Management Tool (DSAMT). The SECH maintain one central DSAMT and all new assessed applicants are profiled using this format. The purpose of this standardised tool is to implement a process which will support and assist further decision making regarding

prioritisation and placement of residential support. In line with present procedures all residential care requests throughout the South East and other associated information is included on the DSAMT which also advises the current needs as well as expected future needs of the disability client.

As you are aware the disability service must provide effective and safe services within and not beyond the funding allocated for 2019. All requests that require additional funding are submitted to the Disability Residential Resource Allocation Group (DRRAC) chaired by Head of Social Care SECH. This is the only process to access any additional funds which are not included in this year's budget - each case is prioritised based on risks presenting at the time. We will continue to work with our funded partners to provide Disability Services across the South East Community Healthcare area.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please contact this office.

Yours Sincerely



Patricia McEvoy
General Manager, Disability Service- South East Community Healthcare