



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
31-33 Sráid Chaitríona, Luimneach.

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26th June 2020

Deputy Catherine Connolly,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: catherine.connolly@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Connolly,

The Health Service Executive 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 12553/20

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in receipt of a payment under the mobility allowance and the motorised transport grant; the status of the consultation review process initiated following the closure of the schemes in February 2013; if a report has been completed and will be published; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

The DoH has instructed the following: The part of the Deputy's question relating to the current numbers of recipients of Mobility Allowance is being referred to the HSE for direct reply to the Deputy. The Deputy has been informed in the reply that no payments are being made under the Motorised Transport Grant scheme

HSE Response

The Government decided that new statutory provisions should be established to provide individual payments to people with severe disabilities who require additional income to address the costs of their mobility needs.

In this context, on 26th February 2013, it was decided to close the Mobility Allowance and the Motorised Transport Grant and to seek a solution or solutions to address those with priority needs in a manner compatible with the law and within available financial resources.

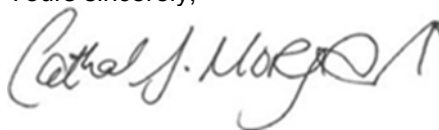
The effect of the Government's decision was that both schemes were closed to new entrants with immediate effect. Those whose applications had already been received for either scheme would be assessed and, if found to be qualified, would be paid.

In November 2013, the Government decided that the detailed preparatory work required for a new travel subsidy scheme and associated statutory provisions should be progressed by the Minister for Health, in consultation with other relevant Ministers. The HSE understands that the Department of Health is working to progress the matter in line with the Government's decision.

Please see table below with details of the number of recipients of the Mobility Allowance and the annual expenditure for the years 2010 to end of quarter 3, 2012.

Mobility Allowance			
	Total Applications	Total Expenditure	Applicants in receipt of MA
2010			
DML	157	2,099,511.91	1,045
DNE	208	1,951,771.43	973
South	262	2,576,287.92	1,387
West	194	2,284,270.69	1,089
HSE Total	821	8,911,841.95	4,494
2011			
DML	224	2,279,871.37	1,109
DNE	272	2,111,245.24	1,031
South	256	2,635,009.70	1,421
West	226	2,278,870.02	1,141
HSE Total	978	9,304,996.33	4,702
2012 to end Q3			
DML	210	1,877,039.38	1,164
DNE	194	1,689,506.40	1,054
South	188	1,987,746.78	1,416
West	188	1,814,982.33	1,082
HSE Total	780	7,369,274.89	4,716

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Cathal Morgan,
Head of Operations - Disability Services,
Community Operations