



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Disability Service
South East Community Healthcare
Health Service Executive
Lacken
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Telephone 353 56 7784319

9th June 2020

Mr. John McGuinness T.D.
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin

PQ 9065/20

To ask the Minister for Health if the funding required to restore the level of services that were in place prior to the cuts being applied over the past ten years at SOS, Kilkenny in relation to the care of persons with an intellectual disability will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy McGuinness

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.

As with other areas, the provision of disability services has come under further pressure in recent years. There is an increase in the number of persons that are seeking access to these services. There is currently increasing levels of “changing needs” due to the increase in the age of the disability population. At all times, service providers and the HSE are balancing the needs of multiple service users and aiming to meet the needs of the maximum number of service users, within the available resources.

The HSE acknowledge the services and supports provided by SOS Kilkenny. With regard to 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. All requests 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 requests for additional funding for clients in 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.

See Table 1 below which outlines the funding provided by the HSE to SOS since 2014.

Table 1 SOS funding from HSE

Year	Carlow Kilkenny	Additional Funding
2014	8,061,625.00	
2015	8,182,799.00	
2016	8,195,545.00	
2017	10,877,883.00	
2018	9,738,446.00	
2019	10,663,884.00	8,919.00

The above Table 1 SOS outlines additional funding in 2019 for client support.

As you are aware the disability service must provide effective and safe services within and not beyond the annual finite budget. All requests that require additional funding are submitted by the local disability manager to me as Head of Disability Service and in turn where appropriate submitted to the Chief Officer. This is the only process to access any additional funds which are not included in this year's budget and each case is prioritised based on risks presenting at the time.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Ms. Janette Dwyer
Head of Service, Disability Service
South East Community Healthcare