



Denis Naughten TD
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

4th November 2020

PQ 30104/20

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of applications for primary medical certificates that were approved in 2019 and for the first six months of 2020, by county or CHO basis; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Denis Naughten”

Dear Deputy Naughten,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 30104/20), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The Disabled Drivers and Passenger Scheme is operated by the Department of Finance. HSE Community Medical Doctors (CMDs) carry out independent medical assessment of applicants for this scheme. The appeals process is an independent process and is operated by the Disabled Drivers Medical Board of Appeal. There was a Supreme Court judgment on 18 June 2020 in relation to this scheme. Following communication from the Department of Finance, the Minister for Health has instructed that there should be no medical assessments of applicants for Primary Medical Certificates until further notice, pending clarification of the legal position through the Department of Finance.

In 2019 a total of 1,933 applications for primary medical certificates were approved and in the period from January to June 2020 a total of 405 applications for primary medical certificates were approved. See attached Appendix 1 which shows the breakdown of these figures by CHO area.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Siobhán Mc Ardle in black ink.

Siobhán Mc Ardle

Head of Operations: Primary Care
Community Operations