

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine Aonad <u>4A</u> – Áras Dargan An Ceantar Theas An Bothar Mileata Cill Mhaighneann BÁC 8

> Acute Operations Health Service Executive Unit 4A - The Dargan Building Heuston South Quarter Military Road Kilmainham Dublin 8.

5th November 2020

Deputy Jackie Cahill Dáil Éireann Leinster House Dublin 2.

<u>PQ 31904/20</u> *To ask the Minister for Health the reason for the delay in providing student nurses and midwives with travel and accommodation expenses when they are on unpaid placements in hospitals; if this issue will be rectified; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

Dear Deputy Cahill,

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

Pre-registration nursing degree students are paid a Clinical Placement payment of €50.79 per week of Clinical Placement as outlined in the attached Department of Health Circular 9/2004. This payment is processed by the Regional Student Allocations officer within the various Hospital Groups.

Furthermore, a student on the pre-registration nursing degree programme is entitled to a refund of the cost of transport on the basis of receipts certified by the student and the allocations officer in the health service. Public transport should be used wherever possible.

I am advised that in agreement with local working groups, this payment is processed up to six weeks after the completion of the clinical placement. I understand that, to date, no Hospital Group has reported any delays or complaints as the payments are achieved within the specified timeframe. However, if the Deputy is aware of any specific cases and wishes to provide details, we would be happy to look into it.

I trust that this is of assistance

Yours sincerely,

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Carol Ivory General Manager Acute Operations