

Community Healthcare West serving Galway, Mayo and Roscommon Ceannasaí na Seirbhísí Bunchúraim Cúram Sláinte Phobail, Iarthar, Ceanncheathrú N. Muire,

Caisleán an Bharraigh, Co. Mhaigh Eo, F23 HP58. T: 094 9049064 / 094 9049069

Head of Primary Care Services Community Healthcare West, St. Mary's Headquarters, Castlebar, Co. Mayo, F23 HP58. Tel: 094 9049064 / 094 9049069

20<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Mr. Alan Dillon T.D., Constituency Office, New Antrim St, Gorteendrunagh, Castlebar, Co. Mayo, F23 VE00

## PQ 2596/21

To ask the Minister for Health if funding is available for families within the CHO2 area in County Mayo for speech generated devices used by children who are non-verbal; if so, the available funding; the number of applications received for funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Dillon,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

In 2019/20/21 there have been no applications made by Primary Care Speech and Language Therapists on behalf of non-verbal children for funding for Augmentative and Alternative Communication Devices (AAC)

In 2019 there were 2 applications made by Disability Speech and Language Therapists on behalf of children for funding for Augmentative and Alternative Communication Devices (AAC), which totalled €8127. The applications were all funded.

In 2020 there were 4 applications made by Disability Speech and Language Therapists on behalf of children for funding for Augmentative and Alternative Communication Devices (AAC), which totalled €12,258. The applications were all funded.

In 2020 there have been 3 applications made by Disability Speech and Language Therapists on behalf of children for funding for Augmentative and Alternative Communication Devices (AAC), which totalled €7,774. The applications have not yet been funded.

There have been no applications made in 2021 yet.

Applications for funding are made by Speech and Language Therapists to the Primary Care Manager or Disability Manager. There is no specific budget for AAC devices. Applications are made on a case by case basis.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Murphy

**Head of Primary Care** 

**Community Healthcare West**