



**Pat Buckley TD**  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

24<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**PQ 12873/21**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the breakdown of annual funding for the provision of motorised wheelchairs; the model for the allocation of same; and his plans for future funding. -Pat Buckley”**

Dear Deputy Buckley,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (Reference 12873/21), which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Assessments of mobility needs including assessments for wheelchairs are primarily carried out by occupational therapy staff. Assessments for wheelchairs depends on the clinical needs and the anticipated use by the client. Requests for approval of medical and surgical supplies including wheelchairs are considered by Resource Allocation Groups in the CHO areas.

Expenditure on wheelchairs is coded under a cost category which also includes expenditure for other mobility related costs including for example physiotherapy appliances, purchase of medical equipment and rental of medical equipment. The combined expenditure under this cost category was €20.5m in 2019 and €19.8m in 2020.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

**TJ Dunford**  
Head of Operations; Primary Care.  
Community Operations.