



28th October 2021

Mr. Paul Kehoe, TD
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PQ ref 50339/21 - Funding for Motor Neurone Disease Nurses

To ask the Minister for Health if he has plans to introduce a multi-annual funding structure to support motor neurone disease nurses in the community; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Kehoe,

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

Community Healthcare Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) wishes to advise that all patients with motor neurone disease (MND) have access to Public Health Nursing and community nursing services together with all other allied healthcare professionals through Primary Care Services. Patients may also access Home Care Package Supports and Respite services.

In addition CHO DNCC provides funding to the Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association to the value of €207,852 per annum.

This HSE funding covers many services such as:

- Equipment loan scheme which covers aids and appliances given to MND patients for the length of time that they need it. It is then taken back, decontaminated, repaired if appropriate and re-used for further clients.
- Funding is also utilized for storage and transport of this equipment to clients nationally, maintenance and repair of equipment, cleaning and decontamination of equipment.
- There are also 4 outreach nurses who cover the country nationwide – each with a caseload of approx. 100 patients each.

The National Disability office of the HSE continues to work closely with the Department of Health regarding the development of a system to support multi-annual funding for Disability Services, however this process has not reached conclusion to date.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Olive Hanley
Head of Service for Disability