



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Disability Service
South East Community Healthcare
Health Service Executive
Lacken
Dublin Road
Kilkenny
R95NV08

Telephone 353 56 7734804

20th September 2021

Mr. Jackie Cahill TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 43860/21

To ask the Minister for Health if there is funding available to cover the cost of a person with special needs travelling by taxi to attend the Cashel day centre, County Tipperary; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cahill,

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

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

While there is no statutory basis for the provision of non-emergency patient transport by the HSE disability service, we endeavor to support the services in providing transport for service users. The Disability Services in the South East Community Healthcare (SECH) continue to escalate as appropriate the issues of additional costs in relation to transport for all Disability Service Users.

HSE Disability Services provide funding (subject to funding availability and service priorities) to agencies/services mainly residential and respite services, to support them to purchase an appropriate an appropriate vehicle to meet their needs for transporting clients. The use of Taxi's has previously proven challenging as drivers have not received the appropriate training in Disability Awareness etc.

If the Deputy would like to provide more specific details in relation to this matter we will follow up with the relevant Disability Department in the South Tipperary

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Anne Ennis
Head of Service, Disability Service
South East Community Healthcare