

Office of the Head of Primary Care South East Community Healthcare HSE Offices, Lacken Dublin Road Kilkenny

Telephone +353 56 7784100

29th April 2022

Mr. Michael Lowry TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Dublin 2

PQ 19385/22

To ask the Minister for Health the financial supports that will be made available to treatment centres (Aiseiri National Addiction Treatment Centres); if his attention has been drawn to the fact that this organisation is carrying legacy Covid-19 debt of €400,000 from 2021 which has still not been addressed; the financial help that the organisation can receive from the Covid relief payment scheme; if his attention has been further drawn to the fact that this organisation will have to reduce services if funding is not provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Lowry,

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 outlines the current position.

The HSE is aware of a COVID 19 debt from 2021; additional funding of €512,000 was provided from the HSE COVID Public Health fund in 2020. This funding, however, was not available to Aiseiri in 2021. Additional steps have been put in place to support Aiseiri to reconcile the deficit through once off funding and a planned unit cost analysis for 2022.

You mention that Aiseiri may have to reduce services if funding is not provided. The services in question relate to two services which were set up without prior discussion with the HSE and unfortunately these were not approved by the HSE which is outside the terms of the Service Arrangement.

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

Yours sincerely,

Anna Marie Lanigan

Head of Service-Primary Care

Assistant National Director

South East Community Healthcare