



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta, Acmhainní Daonna

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhísí Sláinte

Ospidéal Dr. Steevens'

Baile Átha Cliath 8

Office of the National Director of Human Resources

Health Service Executive

Dr. Steevens' Hospital

Dublin 8

Tel: 01 6352319 Email: nationalhr@hse.ie

Holly Cairns T.D.

13th April, 2022

PQ 17379/22 To ask the Minister for Health the steps he is taking to encourage active travel modes to and from work in his Department and public bodies and agencies that operate under his remit; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Holly Cairns

Dear Deputy,

I refer to your recent parliamentary question above which was sent to the HSE for reply.

Information on Sustainable and active travel - walking and cycling to work is available on:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/healthbusinessservices/national-health-sustainability-office/sustainable-transport/sustainable-and-active-travel-walking-and-cycling/>

The Cycle to Work Scheme is a tax incentive encouraging employees to cycle to and from work. Under the scheme, employers pay for bicycles and bicycle equipment for their employees. The employee pays their employer back through a salary-sacrifice arrangement. The employee is not liable for tax, PRSI or Universal Social Charge on their repayments.

An overview of the Cycle to Work Scheme is available on <https://healthservice.hse.ie/staff/benefits-services/benefits/cycle-to-work.html> with HR Circular 058/2020 detailing the operation of the scheme - <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/hr-circulars/hr-circular-058-2020-cycle-to-work-scheme.pdf>

It is the policy of the HSE to provide facilities at the workplace for staff bicycles.

Over the period 2017-2020, HSE H&W have once-off funding to CHOs and Hospital Groups to support staff health and wellbeing initiatives including the provision of facilities to support active commuting. A recurring staff H&W fund has been established in CHOs and Hospital Groups. Measures to support active commuting continue to be recommended for consideration by CHOs and Hospital Groups including participation in the national Smarter Travel initiative.

The annual HSE Steps to Health campaign includes advice and tips to promote active travel, in 2021 almost 7,000 staff.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie O'Sullivan".

Marie O'Sullivan
National HR