



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

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27th May 2022

Deputy David Cullinane,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 22577/22 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of applications that have been made for the blind welfare allowance over the past five years; the number that have been rejected; the number of appeals that have been made; and the number of those appeals that have led to a decision being overturned; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- David Cullinane

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 22577/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Blind Welfare Allowance (BWA) is part of special services for blind persons under the Blind Persons Act, 1920. It is a means-tested payment from the HSE to people, aged 18 and over, who are blind or visually impaired.

Please see the attached Appendix, which details the number of applications made for the blind welfare allowance over the past five years, the number of which have been rejected, the number of appeals made, and the number of appeals which have led to a decision being overturned.

Appendix 1 – Blind Welfare Allowance Application Data

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Seán McArt
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations