



2nd December 2022

Darren O'Rourke T.D.
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 54780/22

To ask the Minister for Health if he has considered removing the transport contribution charge for those travelling to HSE day centres; the amount that was raised by these fees to date in 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy O'Rourke

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

The amount which was raised from the Transport Contribution Charge in Community Healthcare Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan and Sligo (CH CDLMS), from 01/01/2022 to 30/09/2022 was €281,384.20. Currently, there are no plans to remove this charge.

Unfortunately, due to lack of accessible public transport routes and rurality of some of the areas, the charge is required so that service users can access and avail of important community and day services.

The provision of transport for clients accessing HSE Day Services across Older Persons, Disability and Mental Health Services is a particular challenge across the five counties in CH CDLMS where public transport is limited. The HSE does not have a statutory requirement to provide transport, however it is recognised that many people could not access services without HSE support. The HSE currently contribute approximately 90% of total transport operating costs to enable clients to access day services across CH CDLMS in partnership with Local Link Transport Services, with the remainder coming from a daily transport contribution from clients.

The HSE will continue to work closely with Local Link to ensure that the transport provided is safe and of the highest quality, and represents the best value for money.



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

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dermot'.

Dermot Monaghan
Priomhoifigeach
Chief Officer
Community Healthcare Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo