

Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí, Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens, Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8. D08 W2A8.

Office of the Head of Operations, Community Operations - Primary Care @hselive

Rm 243, Dr Steevens Hospital, Steevens Lane, Dublin 8. D08 W2A8. www.hse.ie

T: 01 6352209/2682 E: community.primarycare@hse.ie

12th October 2022

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

PQ 48462/22 – To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a breakdown of the financial supports that are available to parents of children with vision impairments who require strong prescription glasses; if these supports vary depending on CHO area; 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 48462/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE provides a standard rate for the provision of glasses through the Primary Care Eligibility & Reimbursement Service (PCERS). The nine Community Healthcare Organisations (CHOs) are allocated budgets to fund services in their area which may contribute towards the cost of high index lenses in certain circumstances usually as advised by an Ophthalmic Consultant.

The HSE is committed to ensuring that all eligible services users have access to the relevant and applicable standard allowances to support optimum vision throughout childhood.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

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Seán McArt **General Manager Primary Care** National Community Operations