

Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí, Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

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20th October 2022

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

PQ 52063/22 – To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 690 of 4 October 2022, if he will provide rates provided to each CHO; if procedures can be outlined that qualify for access to the fund; and if there are operational guidelines/protocol in place for the PCERS; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

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 52063/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

At present, no single policy exists for the allocation of financial supports to the parents of children who require high index lenses however, there is a great deal of commonality and best practice locally throughout the clinical assessment process. Community Health Organisations (CHOs) have autonomy in regards to the management of their own areas and budgets, in this regard. Factors normally considered during assessment include clinical impact and risk assessment.

The HSE remains committed to delivering efficient high quality ophthalmology services and supports to all eligible service users.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

= MC to

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