



Children's Health Ireland

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire
Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97 Ireland

Our Ref: PQ/42080/22

2nd September 2022

Deputy John McGuinness
Dáil Eireann
Dublin 2

Dear Deputy McGuinness

I refer to your recent PQ which has been forwarded to me for attention.

PQ: To ask the Minister for Health the number of HSE child sexual abuse findings that were classified as confirmed that were overturned by the appeal panel to classified as unfounded since the formation of the appeals panel in 2015; the number of alleged perpetrators of child sexual abuse that have sued the HSE in relation to outcomes and findings; if HSE outcomes and findings that were made prior to the publication of the 2014 policies and procedures have no standing at present given that these assessments were conducted in the absence of a health board and HSE policy; if this is the case given that it would impact each case prior to the commencement of the 2014 policies and procedures; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) Response

Children's Health Ireland (CHI) have reviewed the above PQ and it appears that the question needs to be directed to Tusla.

The process referred to by the Deputy relates to that agency. Tusla (formerly the HSE Child and Family Division) is the responsible independent agency established on 1 January 2014 under the auspices of and reporting to the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

The appeal panel is a body established by Tusla and relates to an appeal of that agency's substantiation process following its investigation of cases where child sexual abuse is alleged.

It is within the remit of Tusla to confirm or reach outcomes as referred to by the Deputy in the question.

Please see link below for your convenience:

<https://www.tusla.ie/get-in-touch/>



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Yours sincerely

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