



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

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

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5th October 2022

Deputy Paul Kehoe,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 44950/22– To ask the Minister for Health if children who require high index lenses in their glasses can avail of funding under the children’s optical voucher scheme to cover the additional cost of purchasing these lenses as a standard throughout every region of the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- Paul Kehoe

Dear Deputy Kehoe,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 44950/22) 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). Children are awarded varying amounts depending on their prescription. There is a standard allowance available through PCERS and 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,

Seán McArt
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations