

31<sup>st</sup> January 2023

Deputy Mark Ward,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 2188/23**

**“To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 602 of 13 December 2022, the cost of accommodating the telemedicine clinic in CHO4, including the expenses for travel for quarterly appointments; and if he will make a statement on the matter..”**

Dear Deputy Ward,

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.

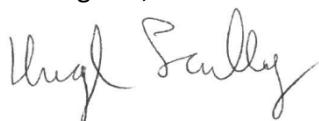
The practice of telemedicine in South Kerry CAMHS commenced in January 2022. There were initial outlay costs, namely the provision of audio-visual equipment. On-going costs consist of airfare and accommodation costs for the Consultant from Doha when he visits the South Kerry CAMHS base on a quarterly basis. Additional operational costs are minimal as the clinics are supported by staff from within the team itself, including the Consultant, and did not involve recruiting additional staff.

- Travel & Accommodation - € 2,790.00 (including flights)
- Audio-visual equipment - € 550

The practice of telemedicine has been well received and attended by children and parents in South Kerry CAMHS. Management in Cork/Kerry Community Healthcare are committed to recruiting a full-time on-site Consultant as Clinical Lead for the team. However, the practice of telemedicine provides a viable alternative and ensures that a quality service can be provided to the children of South Kerry CAMHS in the interim.

I trust the above clarified the queries raised.

Kind Regards,



**Hugh Scully**  
**A/General Manager**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**