

Oifig an Príomhoifigeach Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tire, An Lú, An Mhí

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin, An Tulach Mhór, Co. Uíbh Fhailí. Office of the Chief Officer Community Health Organisation Midlands Louth Meath

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28<sup>th</sup> June, 2023

Ms. Imelda Munster T.D., Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Re: Parliamentary Question - 29863/23

To ask the Minister for Health why no costs are covered by the HSE in the over-eights ophthalmic scheme in CHO8, (Louth and Meath) when fees are partly covered in other CHO areas: and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Munster,

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. I have examined the matter and I outline the position as follows;

## Meath CHO8 -

Patients over eight years of age that have been seen and discharged by the Meath Ophthalmology service are discharged because they only require optical follow up. In those cases they are discharged to their local opticians.

They pay for the eye test and receive an entitlement off the cost of the glasses (amount depends on frame and prescription). Any outstanding balance is paid by the parents.

## Louth CHO8 -

Patients are not discharged from Louth Ophthalmology service until they are 12. The under eight's receive an entitlement off the cost of the glasses (amount depends on frame and prescription). Any outstanding balance is paid by the parents.

I trust the above is in order and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.



Yours sincerely,

Broadbank

Carole Braodbank Chief Officer Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation