



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta  
Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte  
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin, Baile Phámar,  
Baile Átha Cliath 20, D20 HK69

HSE National Office for Suicide  
Prevention (NOSP)  
Stewarts Hospital, Palmerstown, Dublin  
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Deputy Carol Nolan.  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

05<sup>TH</sup> March 2024

**PQ Number: 46754/23**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health if his department, or any body under the aegis of his Department, has facilitated in-person or remote briefings on any issue from organisations (details Supplied) from 2021 to date; if so, the topic discussed; the fees paid to the organisations for these briefings; and if he will make a statement on the matter.- Carol Nolan**

***Details Supplied: Transgender Equality Network Ireland (TENI) and BelongTo***

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Dear Deputy Nolan,

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 the following outlines the position.

The HSE National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP) is one office of the HSE that provides funding to TENI (Transgender Equality Network Ireland) and Belong To Youth Services. There are 20+ such organisations in receipt of funding from the HSE NOSP. Full details of these organisations, and their funded-initiatives, are available in published [HSE NOSP Annual Reports](#). Funding from this Office is specifically in alignment with goals, objectives and actions in Connecting for Life, Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide (2015-2024).

Funding provided by the HSE is restricted and provided for specific purposes, agreed annually with each organisation, in Service Level Agreements (SLAs). All funding agreements are considered in the context of relevant HSE criteria and governance requirements, and budgets - and funding is provided and governed under the national [HSE Governance Framework for the funding of Non-Statutory Agencies](#).

Understanding particular service needs and demands – as informed by services experiences, research, evidence, standards and best practice – is also important in assessing funding applications or making allocations.

The HSE NOSP has routine and regular engagement with all its funded NGOs. Reciprocal communication – formal and informal – with funded partners is always ongoing. It fulfils reporting requirements associated with Service Level Agreements. It also improves partnership working, and advances collaborative cross-sectoral efforts required to implement a complex strategy such as



Connecting for Life. The HSE NOSP does not typically pay fees for routine communications (e.g., 'briefings') from its funded agencies, and has not done so for the two organisations in question.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "John Meehan".

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**Mr John Meehan**  
**HSE Assistant National Director, Mental Health Planning**  
**& Head of National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP)**