



19/09/2023

Deputy Catherine Murphy,
Dáil Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 37938/23 – *“To ask the Minister for Health the details of the annual funding for aids and appliances for persons who are blind or vision impaired in CHO7 in the years of 2021, 2022 and 2023, in tabular form.2*

Dear Deputy Murphy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for a response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Health Service Executive can confirm in Community Healthcare Organisation 7 (CHO7), aids and appliances are funded from a central cost centre managed by the Primary Care Service. There is no facility to split this expenditure by care group/disability therefore we cannot provide the information requested above. However, the total amount spent on aids and appliances for the years 2021, 2020 and to date in 2023 in CHO7 is detailed below:

	2021	2022	YTD 2023
Aids and Appliances (Hardship)	€ 21,361,807.00	€ 23,517,250.00	€ 16,336,069.00

It is however possible from our SAP finance system to isolate expenditure on aids and appliances which are specific to persons who are blind or visually impaired and that data is detailed on the attached table.

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

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Farrelly

**Interim Head of Service, Primary Care
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare**