



Oifig an Príomhoifigeach
Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tíre,
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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22nd September, 2023

Mr. Sean Fleming T.D.,
Minister of State,
Department of Foreign Affairs,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question – 38126/23

To ask the Minister for Health when ongoing funding will be provided for a post (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.

(Details) - A post through the National Office for Suicide Prevention which was provided on a pilot 50/50 basis between Offaly Traveller Movement and the Laois Traveller Action Group on a pilot basis and if this post can be made permanent.

Dear Minister Fleming,

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.

During 2022 and 2023, the National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP) allocated funding to Offaly Traveller Movement under the Travelling to Well Being Programme for the provision of a full-time Social Worker post to provide social work support to the Traveller community within Offaly. Due to the arising needs within the Traveller community in Laois and a social work service not being available there, it was agreed by all the relevant parties, that the Social Work service would be extended to both Offaly and Laois for a pilot period. This would also give Laois Traveller Action Group, an opportunity to gather evidence of need to support a business case to fund a social work service for their own organisation. This pilot period is now concluded. A funding application will be submitted to NOSP in the coming months for the 2024 financial year.



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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CB', written in a cursive style.

Carole Broadbank
Chief Officer
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation