



Oifig an Stiúrthóir Cúnta Náisiúnta,
Foireann Míchumais Náisiúnta,
An Chéad Urlár - Oifigí 13, 14, 15,
Áras Phlásóg na Rós, Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,
Páirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta,
Caladh an Treoigh,
Luimneach.

Office of the Assistant National Director,
National Disability Team,
First Floor- Offices 13, 14, 15,
Roselawn House, University Business Complex,
National Technology Park,
Castletroy,
Limerick.

3rd May 2024

Deputy Roisin Shortall,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: roisin.shortall@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Shortall,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary question, which was submitted to this department for response.

PQ: 15045/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth if a response will issue to a section 39 funding application (details supplied); the reason a response has not been issued; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Details Supplied: re Parkinsons Ireland details emailed to dept 12:16, 02/04/24. AM. PQ_Attach_15045-24-1.msg. (letter from Parkinson's Ireland)

HSE Response

Parkinsonism is an umbrella term that describes conditions that feature the main symptoms of Parkinson's (tremor, rigidity and slowness of movement). About 85% of people with Parkinsonism have Parkinsons. The other 15% have other rarer conditions such as Drug Induced Parkinsons, Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (PSP), Multiple System Atrophy (MSA) and Parkinsonism secondary to other medical problems, such as after a stroke.

Evidence shows the impact of living with Parkinson's Disease when trying to manage day to day activities of daily living, requires ongoing supports at home and in the community, environmental adaptations and the use of assistive devices. As the condition progresses people experience significant economic burden due to work loss and disability.

People with Parkinson's Disease require continuous access to rehabilitation and community-based supports.

Evidence-based and informed by population needs, the 2019 National Strategy & Policy for the Provision of Neuro-Rehabilitation Services in Ireland Implementation Framework addresses the rehabilitation continuum of care.

It describes the requirement for a whole system approach and provides the blueprint for how we should deliver care and services for those who suffer from neurological conditions who require individualised, goal focused rehabilitation. It is



recognised that continued investment in and development of neuro-rehabilitation services will need to be prioritised beyond the three year implementation period of this Implementation Framework in order to address the significant lack of capacity within existing services.

Funding the Parkinson's Association of Ireland

The HSE funds a range of community services and supports to enable each individual with a disability, including persons with Parkinson's disease, to achieve their full potential and maximise independence, including living as independently as possible. These are provided through acute and primary care services, along with specialist disability services as required by the person.

Parkinson's Association of Ireland receives direct funding from the HSE in one Community Healthcare Area (CHO 2) only arising from a service development agreed by that region for the provision of specialist supports. This is funded through resources available under the Primary Care funding stream.

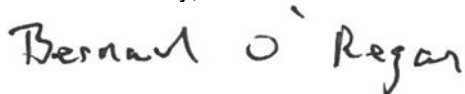
In Autumn 2023, the CEO of the Parkinson's Association approached the HSE with a number of business cases to seek funding for the development of services in the other eight CHOs similar to that in CHO 2.

The HSE has been considering the most appropriate way to oversee this type of development, which clearly relates to the overall neuro-rehabilitation strategy, which is within the remit of DCEDIY and HSE Disability Services, while also recognising the essential input from acute and primary care services which are within the remit of the Department of Health.

In light of this consideration, and with the clinical input of the National Clinical Programme for People with Disabilities, the HSE position is as follows:

- It is appropriate for HSE Disability Services to be the point of contact for funding proposals.
- These funding requests will need to be considered in the context of the overall neuro-rehabilitation strategy and associated priorities.
- Funding can only be provided for through the annual estimates process.
- Business cases will be considered by the HSE and may require to be submitted through a combination of Primary Care, Acute and Specialist Disability services as part of an integrated services approach to both funding and delivery, consistent with the neuro-rehabilitation strategy.

Yours Sincerely,



Bernard O'Regan
Assistant National Director
National Disability Team

