



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.

2nd July 2024

Deputy Violet-Anne Wynne,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: violet-anne.wynne@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Wynne,

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: 24598/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the reason emergency funding for sustainability of an organisation (details supplied) has not been paid; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Details supplied: On the 17th April 2024, Minister Rabbitte made a commitment to Deputy Wynne across the floor of the Dáil that FASD Ireland would receive funding of approximately €200,000 for this year. Separately, a commitment was made by the Minister's Office that an uplift of €30,000 would be paid in the first instance as an emergency payment. That guarantee was given at the start of March and to date no monies have yet been paid out by the HSE. Can I seek clarification as to when the money be paid?

HSE Response

Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) is a group of disorders associated with a range of lifelong physical, mental, educational, social, and behavioural difficulties. They are caused by prenatal alcohol exposure. FASD is often an invisible disability, yet prenatal alcohol exposure is the leading preventable cause of neurodevelopmental disorder. The prevalence and epidemiology of FASD in Ireland is not known. An estimated 2.8 – 7.4% of the population of Ireland might have FASD, according to a 2017 systematic review.

FASD Ireland was established in September 2021 with three core aims, to raise awareness of FASD, to reduce the prevalence of FASD, and to support people living with FASD.

FASD Ireland believe that FASD is a silent epidemic, and most people living with the condition are already known to the HSE Agencies that provide support for one reason or another. Owing to a lack of recognition of the condition, FASD is overlooked and diagnosed as one or more of the more recognised co-morbid conditions instead.



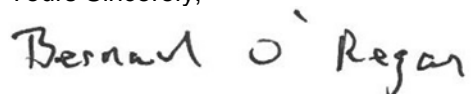
FASD Ireland aim to provide help by working with the Parent or Carer and providing strategies for them to be a more effective external brain for their child; helping to de-escalate and integrate the child back into education or the home setting without further altercation or upset.

FASD Ireland believe the most effective intervention and support for the child or young adult is to work with Parents or Carers.

The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) is making €200,000 available to FASD Ireland in accordance with the HSE 2024 service plan.

Minister Rabbitte has met with FASD Ireland and funding is being allocated to this organisation through a service Arrangement to be agreed with the HSE Mid-West area.

Yours Sincerely,



Bernard O'Regan
Assistant National Director
National Disability Team

