



Oifig an Stiúrthoir Cúnta,
Cúram Priomhúil Rochtain agus Comhthathú,

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,
Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8.
D08 W2A8.

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19th May 2025

Deputy Doherty,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 25236/25 To ask the Minister for Health which local health authorities have a reimbursement scheme offering an ESB rebate in lieu of the excess electricity costs incurred by running a home oxygen generator/machine; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

- Pearse Doherty

Dear Deputy Doherty,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 25236/25) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Eligible clients who require the use of an oxygen and other similar equipment have this equipment and associated supplies such as concentrators, BiPap machines and oxygen, provided to them by the Health Service Executive. The HSE also supports the maintenance and replacement of these pieces of equipment and associated supplies. Non-eligible clients have access to the Drug Payment Scheme for a refund of the costs of this equipment when their expenditure on prescribed medicines and supplies or rental costs of respiratory equipment exceeds the established monthly threshold.

While some of the local areas in the country did historically provide an electricity subsidy, this has been discontinued for new clients for some time and at present no HSE Area is providing an electricity subsidy to new clients. There are 3 clients nationally who remain in receipt of this allowance via historical arrangements. There is now a standard approach to this matter throughout the country.

In respect of individuals who may be experiencing difficulty in paying their electricity bills, financial assistance may be available to them via their Community Welfare Officer in the Department of Social Protection. It would be advisable for them to contact their local Community Welfare Officer who can best advise on the exact process for accessing any assistance.

I trust this is of assistance.

Seán McArt

General Manager

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