



Oifig an Phríomhoifigigh Airgeadais

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,
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30th October 2025

Deputy Pat Buckley TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re PQ 56398 25: *To ask the Minister for Health the amount the HSE spent on taxis for patients in 2023, 2024 and to date in 2025.*

Dear Deputy Buckley,

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. Your PQ above has been referred to me for response.

Please see **Appendix 1 Table 1** below which shows the total HSE patient taxi costs for the years 2023 and 2024 which is the most recent data available. The data was sourced from the HSE Annual Financial Statements data for 2023 and 2024. The data is for HSE Statutory services only. The data for 2025 will be available after the 2025 Annual Financial Statements are complete and approved. This will be available once the year end audit process is complete. The figures include other patient transport costs such as minibuses and local transport initiatives. The information given is the best information currently available.

Context

HSE vehicles and their staff are prioritised for front line, emergency work and therefore a much more effective service is provided for patients or clients who are not acutely ill through the use of taxis. Taxi services are also used for transport of renal dialysis patients and at times for the transfer of patient charts/files between hospitals. The use of taxis for patient transport represents a more cost effective solution when compared to investment in a fleet of HSE owned vehicles for this purpose which would entail additional costs including the provision of 24/7 staffing, maintenance, fuel, insurance and tax. The use of taxis also allows the HSE flexibility in the face of variable demand.

As outlined in the Health Act, 2004 the objective of the Executive is to use the resources available to it in the most beneficial, effective and efficient manner to improve, promote and protect the health and welfare of the public. In the last number of years, in accordance with this strategic objective, the HSE has centralised and reconfigured services nationally to create centres of excellence for the provision of critical services. Examples include the provision of National Haemodialysis facilities for Renal services patients within each Hospital Group and the provision of Radiation Oncology services in Dublin, Cork and Galway.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at sarah.anderson1@hse.ie or tel: 087 9423319.



Yours sincerely

Sarah Anderson

Bainisteoir Ginearálta | General Manager

HSE Airgeadais Corparáideach, An Rannóg Airgeadais Náisiúnta agus Soláthair HSE

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2.

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Appendix 1 to PQ 56398 25

Table 1

<i>Total HSE Patient Taxi costs for the years 2023 and 2024</i>		
<i>HSE Statutory services only</i>		
	2023	2024
	€M	€M
Patient Taxi/Minibuses	37.9	42.4
<i>Sources : HSE Annual Financial Statements data</i>		