



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

An Oifig Náisiúnta don Chuimsiú
Sóisialta
Rannóg Cúram Príomhúil
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse
Sláinte
Lána an Mhuilinn
Baile Phámar
Baile Átha Cliath 20

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National Social Inclusion Office
Primary Care Division
Health Service Executive
Mill Lane
Palmerstown
Dublin 20

6th December, 2016

Deputy Mick Wallace
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 36237/16

* To ask the Minister for Health the traveller specific actions that are being taken to address traveller health inequalities in the HSE service plan in 2017; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Wallace,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

The following are the actions being taken in the 2017 HSE Service Plan to address Traveller health inequalities:-

Improve health outcomes for Travellers.

Operational Plan Actions

- Deliver targeted programmes to support travellers to self manage chronic conditions such as diabetes, asthma and cardiovascular health.
- Promote the “Connecting for Life” Strategy through Traveller Health Units.
- Develop evidence to support planning and delivery of traveller health services.
- Review issues affecting sustainability of Traveller Community Health Workers.
- Complete roll out of education resource “small changes, big difference” and associated health promotion programmes across Traveller Health Units.
- Train staff in Traveller Health units on Connecting for Life Strategy so that it can be promoted, in a culturally appropriate manner, to members of the Traveller community accessing services.
- Geomap Traveller Health Units, Traveller sites and align these with primary care and mental health catchment areas.
- Commission a review of Traveller Health Unit actions and outcomes in relation to Standards for Safer Better Healthcare.
- Undertake a review of Traveller Community Health Workers and identify issues in relation to sustainability of this workforce.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Diane Nurse', written in a cursive style.

Diane Nurse
National Lead: Social Inclusion