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12th December 2025

Keira Keogh, TD

Dáil Eireann

Kildare Street Dublin 2.

PQ 67545/25

To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the results of a pilot project (details supplied); if her Department has further plans to extend this pilot in other areas across the country; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Keogh,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) have been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

In 2023, the Department of Health (DoH) received once off funding from the Women's Health Fund (WHF) for the Traveller Women Experiencing or at Risk of Homelessness Programme. Genio Trust was appointed to carry out this work over an 18-month period from January 2024 to June 2025.

The aim of the programme was to improve the healthcare supports available to Traveller women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and to develop a national model of culturally appropriate services to help guide future planning.

A call for proposals was issued to the former Community Healthcare Organisations (CHOs), asking them to develop 18-month implementation plans in partnership with Traveller communities and local services. Three projects were chosen to support the development of the national model.

The SASTA Pilot Project, in the former CHO West, was funded in line with the WHF on a once-off basis. The learning and recommendations from this work will inform broader homeless policy, including trauma-informed practice, cultural competence, and improving access to healthcare for Traveller women experiencing housing instability. This reflects the wider understanding that housing is an important factor in influencing health outcomes.

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 'Joseph Doyle', written over a horizontal line.

Joseph Doyle
National Lead, Social Inclusion