



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

1st December, 2016

Deputy Clare Daly
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ 3551/16

* To ask the Minister for Health his plans to increase and ring fence funding for Traveller Health Units..

Dear Deputy Daly,

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:

Traveller Health Units are acknowledged to be a key mechanism for empowering Travellers to improve their health status, promoting capacity of mainstream services to respond to health needs of the Traveller community, and supporting work within a sociodeterminant approach towards addressing inequalities that impact on the health of Travellers.

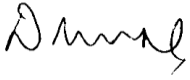
Plans for 2017 in respect of advancing Traveller health contain a proposed action “Commission a review of Traveller Health Unit (THU) actions and outcomes in relation to the *National Standards for Safer Better Healthcare*”. Findings of this collaborative review should inform ongoing planning and decisions around support for each Traveller Health Unit.

It should be noted that no additional funding was provided for Traveller health within allocations for 2017, and in this context, it is unlikely that funding could be increased for THUs in the short term.

Completion of the anticipated National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy will further inform actions to be taken towards improvement of Traveller health; provision of support for the work of Traveller Health Units could be expected to be referenced in this strategy.

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 'D Nurse', written in a cursive style.

Diane Nurse
National Lead: Social Inclusion