



Office of the General Manager

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31st October 224

Mr. John McGuinness TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 42688/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth if he will ensure that all entitlements due to the retired staff at an organisation (details supplied) are paid in full as a matter of urgency; the reasons for the delay; the number of staff affected; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Details supplied: SOS, Aurora, Kilkenny

Dear Deputy McGuinness,

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

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

HSE Disability Services recognise the important role of S38 and S39 organisations for our health and social care sectors.

All Section 39 charity organisations are independent entities and not public bodies, and whilst dependent on government funding the employment structures and allowances are matters for the organisation. Following extensive negotiations in the WRC an agreement was reached in November 2023 which saw an increase in funding for pay of staff in section 39 organisations, as well as section 10 and section 56 organisations. An overall phased increase of 8% was agreed, with an initial increase of 3% backdated to April 2023, a 2% increase from 1st November 2023 and a further increase which came into effect on 1st March 2024.

The Section 38 organisations remain aligned to HSE pay scales and allowances.

There are further ongoing communication nationally through the WRC process to enable a sustainable funding platform to support further alignment to HSE rates for Section 39 providers.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Karen Fitzgerald
General Manager – Adult Disability Services
South East Community Healthcare