

23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2024

Mr. Michael McGrath, T.D.,  
Dáil Eireann,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ ref 37109/ 24**

**“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the position in relation to an application for the provision of annual core funding to an organisation in County Cork (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.”**

**Details Supplied: The Crann Centre**

Dear Deputy McGrath,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for response.

The Crann Centre is a registered charity based in Ovens, Co Cork. It supports children, adults and families living with a neuro-physical disability.

Following on from a visit to the centre by Minister Rabbitte in June 2023, the Crann Centre understood that there was a potential to access funding of €0.75m for 2024. A business case by the organisation was submitted in 2023 relation the funding for its service for 2024 and 2025 which CKCH submitted to the HSE national disability team for consideration through the 2024 estimates process. As provided for in the HSE National Service Plan for 2024, The Crann Centre received €570,000 funding which has been confirmed as core funding. This sum comprises €170,000 for a continence service and a further €400,000 for a range of disability specific services.

The Crann Centre has submitted a further business case in 2024 for HSE funding consideration. This business case sets out a funding requirement of €1,715,846 for 2025. This figure is inclusive of the agreed funding of €570,000. This business case for additional financial support in 2025 has been escalated for consideration as part of the 2025 Estimates process.

### **Additional funding grants**

#### **Strengthening Children's Disability Services Grant Scheme**

The Crann Centre is also being considered for funding under the *Strengthening Children's Disability Services Grant Scheme*. This is for a Crann project proposing to increase the capacity of the dietetic clinic for clients with neuro-physical disabilities, with an additional clinic per quarter. The funding sought is approximately €11.5k. Mr. Bernard O'Regan, Assistant National Director is in discussions with DCEDIY to agree the final allocation to the grant fund and following this, the HSE will contact applicants directly to discuss the drawdown of any funding to be allocated to them.

#### **Disability Participation and Awareness Fund 2024**

Minister Rabbitte and Rethink Ireland announced on the 21<sup>st</sup> August that Crann Centre is one of 14 organisations awarded funding from the €2.4m *Disability Participation and Awareness Fund 2024*. The amount of the award which is to include cash grants and business supports has not been indicated.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely,



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**Angela O'Neill**  
**Head of Disability Services**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**

