



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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30th. April 2019

Deputy Denise Mitchell
TD
Dail Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ Number 18307/19:

To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of recruiting and appointing community nursing staff to allow public health nurses to focus on child health and well-being, and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Mitchell,

The above PQ has been redirected to my Department for direct response to you on same.

The Slaintecare Report makes the following recommendation:

Adequately resource child health and wellbeing services:

- Hire up to 900 more general nurses to work in the community with older people and people leaving the acute sector, to free up Public Health Nurses who have training in child health services to carry out child health work as part of the current Nurture-Infant Health and Wellbeing programme and the HSE's National Healthy Childhood Programme
- Ensure that parents are supported to meet the emotional development needs of their children as well as their physical health needs through supporting the development of the parent-child relationship
- Integrate an Infant Mental Health approach into the Primary Care Child Health and Wellbeing service
- Child health and wellbeing services including parenting supports during pregnancy and in the early years of the child's life.

The Slaintecare Report also includes 10 year budgeted costings for the various recommendations. It is estimated that resourcing and developing child health and wellbeing services (additional staff costs) will cost the following:

	Increase from previous year	Cumulative spend
Year 1	€8,292,780	€8,292,780
Year 2	€8,292,780	€16,585,560
Year 3	€8,292,780	€24,878,340
Year 4	€8,292,780	€33,171,120
Year 5	€8,292,780	€41,463,900
Year 6	€0	€41,463,900
Year 7	€0	€41,463,900
Year 8	€0	€41,463,900
Year 9	€0	€41,463,900
Year 10	€0	€41,463,900

Source: Committee on the Future of Healthcare Sláintecare Report May 2017

I hope this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



DR. KEVIN KELLEHER, FFPHM, FFPHMI
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