

03/01/2020

**Deputy Pat Buckley TD,
Dail Eireann
Dublin 2.**

PQ- 53240/19 - To ask the Minister for Health the cost of increasing staffing levels in the mental health services to meet the recommendations of A Vision for Change adjusted for population growth - Pat Buckley.

Dear Deputy Buckley,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. Based on the latest data available

- At November 2019 there was 9,928 Whole Time Equivalents [WTE's] employed in Mental Health.
- A Vision for Change prescribes that the new workforce would comprise approximately 11,000 staff. Based on the increasing population this would equate to 12,354 using 2016 census.
- Therefore leaving a gap of 2,426 WTE's.
- The Average Salary including Employers PRSI & Non Pay costs equates to approximately in excess of €80K therefore the cost of implementing VFC staffing levels is approximately €195.2m (Please note this figure excludes cost of services not prescribe in VFC i.e. Central Mental Hospital & Corporate)

**Please note this data relates to directly employed HSE employees and it does not take account of agency staff and overtime worked which are intrinsic to mental health service delivery in Ireland.*

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me

Yours sincerely,



Dr Sinead Reynolds
General Manager Mental Health Services