



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte  
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01/08/2019

Deputy James Browne TD  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2.

PQ 29644 /19 Question:

To ask the Minister for Health the number of additional enhanced peer support workers delivered to date in 2019 in line with A vision for change recommendations. Deputy James Browne.

Dear Deputy Browne

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The HSE is committed to the inclusion of 'experts by experience' to provide the skillset of 'lived experience' in the design, delivery and evaluation of MH services in line with our national policy's A vision for change's recommendation that we employ special 'recovery workers. Since 2014 the HSE MH service has developed a number of programmes and structures to enhance the recovery orientation of our MH services. This resource is drawn from the Service user, family member and carer constituency.

Intentional peer support working is recognised as a key driver of supporting Service users to achieve their recovery outcomes and in 2017 the HSE introduced 30 trained Peer Support Workers on to selected MDT's across 5 CHO's of which 26 are still in place. A HSE 2019 study has highlighted that the introduction of PrSW's has improved recovery outcomes for Service users and enhanced the recovery orientation of services. The HSE plan to continue to develop the resource of peer support working in services in the coming years subject to funding and in 2019 a further 10 WTE, PrSW's are being recruited. The NRS recruitment process for these is currently underway and they should be coming into post in Qtr 4 2019 or early 2020.



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

Yours sincerely,

Michael Ryan

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Head of Mental Health Engagement and Recovery HSE