



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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12th August 2020,
Deputy Mark Ward,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ Number: 17820/20

To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide a breakdown of sporting national governing bodies in receipt of mental health funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ward,

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.

Over 20 organisations are funded by the HSE National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP) to provide different levels of mental health or suicide prevention services, resources or supports. These organisations are funded from a national perspective, to work in alignment with specific goals, objectives or actions in [Connecting for Life, Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide](#).

In the context of your question, the NOSP presently provides funding to the GAA (€50k in 2020). This funding supports their delivery of the [Healthy Club Project](#) (HCP), the GAA's flagship health promotion programme. Specifically, this funding supports Healthy Clubs to;

- Promote and deliver free suicide prevention programmes (e.g., safeTALK) across their networks and in partnership with local providers or HSE Resource Officers for Suicide Prevention.
- Implement the GAAs Critical Incident Response Plan following the death by suicide of any club or community member.
- Collaborate with local mental health organisations and NGOs to deliver other local events and initiatives.

In addition, the CMHF is a once off fund that pobal are operating through the county councils LCDCs and CYPSCS.

As part of the CMHF Small Grant Scheme each local authority is required to submit a list of grantees awarded, the grantee and project awarded. Grantees submit this information to Pobal, when it is available. To date a small number of grantees have submitted this information and there are no sporting organisations awarded funding to date.

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