



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

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**28<sup>th</sup> August 2020,**  
**Deputy Pat Buckley,**  
**Dail Eireann**  
**Dublin 2.**

**PQ Number: 20563/20**

**To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of establishing a dedicated advocacy service for mental health service users including base establishment costs and expected annual budget supports.**

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position, based on the latest available data regarding the cost of establishing a Mental Health Patients Advocacy Service.

The current cost of providing a Peer Advocacy Service with mental health is approximately €800,000 per annum. This service is concentrated on inpatient services and delivered by an External Agency on behalf of the HSE. Depending on the model of Advocacy proposed the additional cost would be upwards of €600,000 depending on the amount of additional services that might be provided.

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

Yours Sincerely

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Jim Ryan  
Assistant National Director  
Head of Operations  
Mental Health