



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
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28th August 2020,
Deputy Pat Buckley,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

20578/20

To ask the Minister for Health the annual spend for each of the years 2018, 2019 and to date in 2020 on maternal mental health services at all stages of pregnancy and after; and the locations in which and the reason that funding is spent, including new developments planned or in the process of establishment.

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.

Currently Mental Health are not in a position to report on expenditure by service category. The current financial reporting system is aligned to Annual Financial Statement type (ie Nursing pay, Drugs & Medicines etc) and does not align to the services and sub-services in operation.

Funding for the six Specialist Perinatal Mental Health hub teams was provided in 2016, 2017 and 2018 and 2019 to a total of €3.6m. This funding covers the cost of the full hub site teams, that is, in the three Dublin Maternity hospitals as well as Cork University Maternity Hospital, University Maternity Hospital Limerick and Galway University Hospital.

Allocation of Programme for Government Funding 2017 to 2020					
Funding Use	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m
Perinatal	1.0	2.0	0.6	-	3.6



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Planning for Ireland's first Mother and Baby Unit is currently underway and a joint business case is being developed between Mental Health Services in HSE CHO6, St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin and the National Maternity Hospital. Given the documented adverse effects of separating mothers from their babies, the provision of a mother and baby unit as a national tertiary unit is vital and it is hoped that a submission to HSE National Estates Management will take place during 2020.

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

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Ryan".

Jim Ryan
Assistant National Director
Head of Operations
Mental Health