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08/05/2020

Deputy Frankie Feighan,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 4663/20 -To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of ensuring that all primary care teams have at least one mental health post; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-Frankie Feighan

Dear Deputy Feighan,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

Community Healthcare Networks are being implemented and will deliver Primary Health Care Services across an average population of 50,000. The Network will consist of between 4-6 primary care teams involving General Practice (GPs) in the planning and delivery of services in a structured way. There will be 96 Community Healthcare Networks across Ireland.
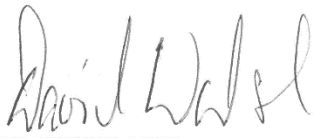
The average salary scale

- Community Mental Health Nurse @midpoint on salary scale = €53,843
  (Health Sector Pay Scales September 2019)

The average salary costing for one mental health nursing staff is €70,000 p.a. including PRSI.

Total cost to ensure one Community mental health nursing staff member per Primary Care Team (480) is €33m.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

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David Walsh,
National Director,
Community Operations