



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte  
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.

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**22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021**

**Deputy Ward,  
Dail Eireann  
Dublin 2.**

**PQ Number 5286/21**

**To ask the Minister for Health the number of specialist eating disorder staff and community eating disorder staff employed to date; and if he will make a statement on the matter**

Dear Deputy

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.

Most people can and do get better from eating disorders. While a small number of people benefit from more intensive treatment through day programmes or inpatient care, the most effective treatment setting is in the community. Dedicated community based eating disorder services, where multidisciplinary teams have specialist training can provide evidence based care and treatment

The HSE approved the Eating Disorder Model of Care (MOC) in January 2018. The MOC is the blue print for the HSE to roll out specialist eating disorder services in Ireland to address the current unmet need for specialist eating disorder service within HSE. Outpatient specialist care is considered to be the most effective treatment setting for most people with eating disorders. The MOC has a core focus on developing regional community based specialist eating disorder services provided by skilled multidisciplinary teams.

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/mental-health/eating-disorders/moc/hse-eating-disorder-services-model-of-care.pdf>

Since 2016 €5.7 million has been made available for Eating Disorder posts through programme for government funding. Of that €1.77 million has been invested to date in Eating Disorder Specialist Posts.

Eating Disorders	Filled WTE
<b>PFG 2016</b>	17.80
<b>PFG 2017</b>	2.00
<b>PFG 2018</b>	2.00
<b>PFG 2019</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21.80</b>



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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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sinead Reynolds'.

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Dr Sinead Reynolds  
General Manager Mental Health Services