



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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

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30th June 2021,
Deputy Mark Ward,
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ
Number: 24044/21

PQ
Question: To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of delivering mental health first aid training to all sporting organisations affiliated to Sport Ireland; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward

PQ
Number: 24052/21

PQ
Question: To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost to deliver mental health first aid training to all existing teachers; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward

PQ
Number: 24058/21

PQ
Question: To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of delivering mental health first aid training to all gardaí; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward

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.

Mental Health First Aid Ireland and the HSE have an agreement to deliver MHFA training to target voluntary, charity, public sector groups such as homeless services, youth organisations, emergency personnel and sporting organisations. Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is the help given to someone experiencing a mental health problem or crisis until appropriate help is received or until the crisis resolves. The Standard and Youth Mental Health First Aid Ireland courses teach people how to provide MHFA. Participants will learn the signs and symptoms of mental health problems and what sort of help has been shown by research to be effective. They learn a framework for communication, how to offer and provide initial help, and how to guide an adult or young person towards appropriate treatments and other supportive help.



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1. The cost of delivery of a 2 Day Adult/Workplace Mental Health First Aid programme is as follows:
 - a. Direct delivery by Mental Health First Aid Ireland staff: €6,000 per course (20 participants face to face or 15 Participants online)
 - b. Delivery by embedded Instructors: €900 per course (20 participants face to face or 15 Participants online). This would require the training of MHFA instructors at a cost of €3,800 per instructor.

2. The cost of delivery of a 2 Day Youth Mental Health First Aid programme is as follows:
 - a. Direct delivery by Mental Health First Aid Ireland staff: €7,000 per course (20 participants face to face or 15 Participants online)
 - b. Delivery by embedded Instructors: €1,000 per course (20 participants face to face or 15 Participants online). This would require the training of MHFA instructors at a cost of €4,000 per instructor.

Both Mental Health First Aid programmes can be utilised by Nurses, Gardai and Sport Ireland affiliated organisations in the course of their duties in the context that all these professions and organisations can have engagement with both Adult and Young people.

Direct Delivery is where an organisation engages MHFA Ireland to deliver training courses, and Embedded is where MHFA Ireland train staff of an organisation as MHFA Instructors and they then delivery MHFA course within that organisation.

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

Yours sincerely,

Jim Ryan
Assistant National Director
Head of Operations