



Mark Ward TD

Dáil Éireann

Kildare Street

Dublin 2

mark.ward@oireachtas.ie

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To ask the Minister for Health the counselling supports that are in place for families who are living with loved ones who have suicidal indentations; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy,

The HSE National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP) has been requested to respond to your question above.

Support for families who are living with loved ones who have suicidal ideation, may be available in many different contexts and settings. For example, support can be found in the context of; general population, mental health promotion, self-help and information services for all; more formalised contact with people-to-people services, for those with mild to moderate difficulties (includes many HSE-funded agencies, GP and Primary Care services); or more specialised mental health services, for people with moderate to severe mental health difficulties (typically requiring a referral). The approach in delivering talk therapies to adults when attending more specialist mental health services, is outlined in the [HSE Model of Care: Adults Accessing Talk Therapies While Attending Specialist Mental Health Services](#) (April 2021).

Counselling is one of many different talk [therapies](#) are available, both privately and across public services (for example, the [HSE National Counselling Service](#) which includes Counselling in Primary Care). This response does not map out entire offerings for you, but I would draw your attention particularly to agencies and support services funded by the HSE in alignment with

Connecting for Life, Ireland's National Strategy to Reduce Suicide, and Sharing the Vision, a Mental Health Policy for Everyone. For example, information, support or programmes for family members/supporters are available from organisations such as Aware, Suicide or Survive, Pieta, Samaritans, National Family Resource Centre Mental Health Promotion Project, Jigsaw, Bodywhys, Grow in Ireland. Mental Health Ireland and MyMind. More details of NOSP-funded agencies can be found in the [NOSP Annual Reports](#).

Lastly, you might also like to note wider initiatives that are specifically designed to support the recovery of people with mental health difficulties, their family members or carers, such as the [HSE Mental Health Engagement Recovery Office](#) and the [Mental Health Innovation Recovery 'i-Recovery'](#) project from CAWT (the cross border health and social care partnership for the HSE and the Southern and Western Health and Social Care Trusts, the Health and Social Care Board and the Public Health Agency in Northern Ireland).

I trust this information is useful for you. Please do revert if you require anything further.

Yours sincerely,



Mr John Meehan
HSE Assistant National Director, Mental Health Planning
& Head of National Office for Suicide Prevention (NOSP)
johnf.meehan@hse.ie