



8th February, 2022

Deputy Mary Lou McDonald, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

Re PQ 3502/22

To ask the Minister for Health his Department's total capital and current expenditure budget for 2021 and 2022 for domestic, sexual and gender-based violence with a breakdown for each related allocation for both years in tabular form.

Dear Deputy McDonald,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

The HSE directly provides supports via the Women's Health Service (WHS) and Anti-Human Trafficking Team (AHTT) statutory service. The WHS operates sexual health clinic services and outreach support to women/trans women involved in the sex industry. The AHTT has responsibility for care planning for both female/male victims of trafficking in all areas of exploitation. For the period 2021 to 2022, the budget allocation to these services' is €834,000. It is not possible to isolate the proportion directly attributed towards domestic, sexual and gender-based violence supports/ interventions.

In addition, the total allocation that can be attributed to domestic, sexual and gender-based violence supports via Section 39 funding from HSE Social Inclusion is set out in the below table for the period 2021-2022.

2021	€796,268
2022	€820,593

In addition to services provided by HSE Social Inclusion, other Areas of the HSE provide services in relation to domestic, sexual and gender-based violence supports including Mental Health, Acute Hospital Services and Emergency Departments, Primary Care Services and GPs providing front line services and attributed budgets are not available.



For example funding for the Sexual Assault Treatment Units (SATUs) is not individualised within each hospital. A Policy Review in 2019, identified actions to support improvements in SATUs centred on 3 areas:

1. Consistency
2. Sustainability
3. Coordination

The actions included:

- Increasing and ring-fencing the SATU budget by 25%
- Improving pathways and connections to wider health services, children's services, social services and justice
- Developing robust national oversight of this critical area of health service delivery
- Supporting a more sustainable SATU workforce to ensure excellent care for vulnerable patients
- Expanding the SATU service so that the longer-term emotional and social needs of patients are looked after as well as their immediate medical and forensic needs.

An additional €550,000 was allocated for SATUs in 2020/2021. It is anticipated that a budget of €800,000 will be allocated for 2022.

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

Yours sincerely,



Joseph Doyle
National Lead, Social Inclusion