



Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte  
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin,  
Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.  
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Deputy John Lahart,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

19<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**PQ Number: 36237/22**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the main improvements in the provision of mental health services since 27 June 2020; and if he will make a statement on the matter - John Lahart**

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Dear Deputy Lahart,

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.

The total mental health funding for 2022 amounts to €1,159m. Since 2012, the mental health budget has grown by €452m of which €325m relates to development funding for priority service enhancements. These targeted investments have been directed by national mental health policy as outlined in Vision for Change (2007), Connecting for Life (2015), Sharing the Vision (2020) and in line with the broader Sláintecare reform programme.

The continued development of Mental Health Services has been aimed at:

- Modernising Mental Health Services that historically were centred on institutional care by building our workforce and investing in fit for purpose infrastructure
- Promoting positive mental health at all levels of society, intervening early when problems develop, and providing accessible, comprehensive and community-based Mental Health Services for those who need them
- Taking a person-centred approach with a focus on enabling and supporting the recovery journey of each individual, based on clinical advice and best practice, as well as lived experience

The table below outlines the movement in the Mental Health funding since 2012 as per the agreed National Service Plan each year.



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Allocation of Programme for Government Funding 2012 to 2022												
Funding Use	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Total
	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m
Service Staff for Community Teams, Specialist services and supports	24.5	31.1	20.0	15.8	3.8	7.9	8.1	3.9				115.0
Counselling in Primary Care (CIPC)	5.0	2.5	-	-	-	-	-	0.5				8.0
National Office for Suicide Prevention & CFL	3.0	1.0	-	2.8	-	-	1.0	0.3		0.1		8.2
In Patient Capacity/Placements	-	-	-	6.3	9.0	4.2	4.6	8.7		7.7	5.0	45.4
Jigsaw & Limerick Youth Service & SHIP Counselling	-	-	-	3.2	5.3	-	-	0.6				9.1
Genio & Misc	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		0.3	0.2	2.6
Community Nurse Allowances	-	-	-	-	-	1.8	-	-				1.8
Advancing Recovery & Service User Engagement	-	-	-	1.0	-	1.0	0.5	0.1		0.9	2.3	5.8
Peer support workers & CHO service user engagement leads	-	-	-	-	2.0	-	-	0.7		0.3	0.4	3.4
Information Systems/ Digital Projects	-	0.4	-	1.0	2.5	-	-	3.0				6.9
Clinical Programs - Self Harm	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	0.6			0.3	1.8
Clinical Programs - Eating Disorders	-	-	-	-	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.6			1.2	6.8
Clinical Programs - Early Intervention in Psychosis	-	-	-	1.4	-	0.5	-	0.4		0.5	0.5	3.3
Clinical Programs - ADHD	-	-	-	-	0.3	1.0	-	0.3			1.1	2.7
Clinical Programs - Dual Diagnosis										1.0	0.8	1.8
MoC Specialist MH Services for Older People											0.6	0.6
CAMH's hubs										5.0	0.6	5.6
Crisis resolution services										2.6	1.4	4.0
Clonmel Crisis house										0.4	0.4	0.7
Sharing the Vision implementation										0.5	0.3	0.8
Expanding community services										3.5	4.0	7.5
Expansion CAMHS services											2.0	2.0
Perinatal	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	2.0	0.6				3.6
MHID	-	-	-	3.2	-	0.5	2.0	1.7		0.3		7.7
Specialist Rehabilitation Services	-	-	-	-	3.0	-	2.9	-				5.9
Homeless funding	-	-	-	-	2.0	1.0	0.5	-				3.5
7 Day services	-	-	-	-	-	4.5	1.0	-				5.5
Service improvement & Quality	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	-				1.0
Minor Works fund to meet compliance and safety requirements	-	-	-	-	-	3.0	3.0	-				6.0
Clinical Psychology Training & Post/Under Graduate Nursing	-	-	-	-	0.7	2.5	2.4	1.5				7.1
Primary Care based Mental Health supports - Psychologists	-	-	-	-	5.0	-	-	-				5.0
Forensic Service	-	-	-	-	-	1.2	1.0	4.7	13.0		1.0	20.9
Drugs & Medicines increased costs for Improved Regimes	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	-				1.0
Youth Mental Health	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.0	-				2.0
Advanced Nurse practitioners	-	-	-	-	-	2.0	-	1.0				3.0
Physical Health	-	-	-	0.4	-	0.5	-	-				0.9
Talk therapies	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	1.0	1.0				2.5
Rental/Upgrade costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.5			2.0	3.5
Social Inclusion based Mental Health supports	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.4				2.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>325.0</b>



The table below provides the breakdown of the NSP 2022 new development funding. Mental Health received €24m under Programme for Government 2022 funding. As outlined in table 4 of the HSE National Service Plan, the full year cost of these initiatives amounts to €36.36m in 2023. None of the developments outlined in the table below, relate to the reclassification of historic development and all relate to new developments which have been and will continue to progress in 2022. It should be noted that the first elements of this funding were not drawn down until 1st January 2022 and subsequent budget drawdowns will occur during 2022 according as these posts are progressed.

<b>Mental Health - Developments NSP 2022</b>		<b>2022 cost</b>	<b>2023 FY cost</b>
	<b>WTE</b>	<b>€m</b>	<b>€m</b>
National Clinical Programme - Eating Disorders	25.6	1.15	2.3
National Clinical Programme - ADHD	17.5	1.13	1.8
National Clinical Programme – Early Intervention Psychosis	11.2	0.5	1.0
National Clinical Programme – Self Harm	6	0.32	0.42
National Clinical Programme – Dual Diagnosis	14	0.75	1
MoC Specialist MH Services for Older People	10.5	0.56	1.13
CAMHS Hubs	9	0.64	1.15
Sharing the Vision Implementation	2	0.25	0.25
Clonmel Crisis House	6	0.35	0.35
Crisis Resolution Services	27	1.43	2.85
Expanding community services	88.7	4	8
Expansion CAMHS services	48.4	2	4
Individual Placement Supports	0	1.25	1.25
Recovery Colleges	5	1.05	1.05
Peer Support	13	0.4	0.6
CAMS training (suicide prevention)	0	0.22	0.22
NFMHS - removal of Night-time confinement	30	1	2
Private Placements	0	4	5
Mental Health Winter plan - Eating Disorder training	0	0.15	0.15
Mental Health Winter plan - Placements	0	0.85	0.85
Rent and costs	0	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>37.4</b>



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Development funding has been invested across a number of prioritised areas of service enhancements, including building capacity in CAMHS and youth mental health, the development of crisis resolution services and investing in mental health in primary care.

### **Service Improvement in CAMHS**

#### **1. CAMHS Telehub Initiative 2021-2024**

National Mental Health have committed to a programme of work to inform the development of the CAMHS Telehealth Hub initiative on a phased basis, informed by testing and monitoring. This body of work includes:

- The development of a pilot Model of Care for CAMHS hubs (2022)
- Pilot testing and implementation of CAMHS hubs across a number of sites, incorporating a rural/urban mix (2022-2024)
- Monitoring and evaluation of pilot site implementation (2022-2024)
- Monitoring and evaluation of key outcomes for service users, families and carers

#### **2. CAMHS Operational Guideline (COG)**

In June 2019, the CAMHS COG was published following an extensive review and consultation process that took into consideration the views of service users, family members, front line staff and management working within HSE mental health services and in other organisations working with children and adolescents. This document follows from a review of the CAMHS Standard Operating Procedure (2015). The audit of compliance of CAMHS teams with operational guidelines (as announced by An Taoiseach 27/01/22), will be made against the CAMHS COG on the basis of a cross mapping with relevant recommendations in the Maskey Report

#### **3. Youth Mental Health Services**

The HSE has over a number of years invested in 'upstream' youth mental health services, including Jigsaw and other funded agencies in the community and voluntary sector who are providing enhanced services for children and young people with mild to moderate mental health difficulties who do not need to access specialist mental health services. Since 2015, the HSE has invested €9.1m development funding to support the establishment and operation of Jigsaw services with thirteen sites now in place.



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#### **4. Forensic CAMHS**

A new 10-bedded Forensic CAMHS unit has now been completed within the NFMHS site in Portrane. This new facility, when operational, will be the first of its kind within the state and will offer 'state of the art' secure care facilities for young people up to the age of 18.

##### **Crisis Resolution Services**

Under the HSE Corporate Plan 2020-2023, and in line with Recommendations 24 and 40 of Sharing the Vision: A Mental Health Policy for Everyone 2020, HSE Mental Health will develop, implement and evaluate a pilot model of crisis resolution services; incorporating crisis resolution teams and cafes to offer an alternative response to inpatient admission, when appropriate.

Crisis Resolution Services will form an integral part of the Service User journey, working in tandem with existing services to provide an integrated 24/7 multi-agency mental health crisis de-escalating service. HSE Mental Health has committed to a programme of work to inform the development of Crisis Resolution Services on a phased basis:

- The development of a pilot Model of Care for Crisis Resolution Services (2022)
- Pilot testing and implementation of Crisis Resolution Services across a number of sites, incorporating a rural/urban mix (2022-2024)
- Monitoring and evaluation of pilot site implementation (2022-2024)
- Monitoring and evaluation of key outcomes for service users, families and carers

A phased approach to the development of Crisis Resolution Services will provide the opportunity to test and learn across pilot sites, and provide the evidence required to inform service planning into the future.

##### **Development and advancement of Telehealth technologies**

The HSE is determined to fully utilising opportunities offered by telehealth technologies to mitigate recruitment challenges and to modernize the delivery of mental health care. The COVID-19 pandemic presented significant challenges for the delivery of health services; both in terms of the provision of services and continuity of care. Given the emphasis placed on ensuring social distancing where possible in the community, and as part of efforts to reduce transmission of coronavirus to healthcare workers, solutions to allow clinical consultations take place remotely were required. In this context Attend Anywhere or Blue Eye, were utilized as an alternative modality.



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### **Primary Care Mental Health Services**

Significant work had been undertaken to develop Primary Care Psychology Services through investment in the Assistant Psychologist programme (€5m). In line with mental health policy and Sláintecare objectives, these initiatives have successfully facilitated access to services at the lowest level of complexity, ensuring effective use of community and in-patient specialist mental health services.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Mc Cusker'.

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**Tony Mc Cusker**  
**General Manager**  
**National Mental Health Services**