



Deputy Mark Ward,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

14th July 2022

PQ Number: 38436/22

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 519 of 8 March 2022, the number of eating disorder mini hub teams that currently exist; if he will provide a breakdown of each eating disorder mini hub team by staff and funding; the capital cost per hub by CHO area in tabular form; 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.

In January 2018, the HSE published a National Model of Care for Eating Disorders (MOC) in partnership with College of Psychiatrists' of Ireland and Bodywhys. In the absence of a pre-existing dedicated eating disorder infrastructure or strategy, this Model of Care document has been developed in order to guide the provision of high quality, accessible and value for money eating disorder services in Ireland. Key recommendations include the development of a national network of dedicated eating disorder teams embedded within the mental health service, a stepped model of outpatient, day patient and inpatient care provision based on clinical need, and the development of a skilled, trained workforce. In the context of the significant physical morbidity associated with eating disorders, this Model of Care also recommends a strong integration between primary care, mental health services and medical teams, including the bridging of the acute hospital and mental health service divide through mutual clinical commitments and shared pathways.

The NCPED aims to establish an ED network (8 adult teams and 8 CAMHS teams) in accordance with the agreed Model of Care 2018. These multidisciplinary teams provide specialist eating disorder assessment and treatment in the community and are the foundations of delivering quality eating disorder care across the stepped model of care.

ED Minihub teams: These teams are located in CHO areas which have less than the recommended population of 500,000. They do not have designated inpatient ED programmes or beds, and they refer to regional centres when an inpatient treatment programme is needed. The teams are proportionately smaller, and provide Levels 2a and 3 of ED care (outpatient and day patient) on a full-time or part-time basis depending on need. Cases that require inpatient psychiatric admission have pathways to a linked inpatient unit with ED beds. However, the mini-hub ED teams otherwise operate independently



of the hub teams, and take the lead for ED services in their own sector. For adult services, each dedicated eating disorder team is therefore linked with the hub ED team that supports a unit with adult ED inpatient beds. For adolescent services, ED teams have direct links are through the regional adolescent units, as is currently the case for CAMHS teams. The reason that all hubs do not have psychiatric ED beds is that an adequate cohort of patients is required in order to deliver an effective eating disorder inpatient programme and to allow for inpatient staff to develop expertise. Locations of the HSE ED hubs and mini-hubs have been chosen with reference to the factors described in the model of care.

Mini-hubs were identified in MOC to be located in – CHO1, CHO5, and CHO3 across the life span. To date the following posts have been funded to commence teams. Two sites had existing dedicated posts in place. Population figures are based on 2016 census.

CHO	Dedicated posts in place pre programme	Posts funded 2022 for NCPED	Update
CHO 1 Sligo/Leitrim/Donegal	1 CNS (adult)	3.2 WTE (adult)	Funding was released in April 2022 by DOH and recruitment has commenced
CHO 1 Cavan/Monaghan 394,333 Total Population CHO1	1 psychotherapist (adult)	3.2 WTE (adult)	Funding was released in April 2022 by DOH and recruitment has commenced
CHO 5 South Tipp/Carlow/Kilkenny/Wex/Waterford 510,33 Total Population CHO5	0	9.7 WTE (adult)	Funding was released in April 2022 by DOH and recruitment has commenced
CHO 3 Limerick/Clare/North Tipperary 384,998 total population CHO3		Submitting funding request from 2023 budget for CAMHS	Estimates 2023



CAMHS ED team staffing is recommended at WTE 14.4 per 500,000-600,000. Adult ED Team staffing is recommended at WTE 13.4 per 500,000-600,000. Estimated costs for staff of a full MDT team is 1.2M – 1.4M this varies as salaries change year on year. Cost of mini hub will be proportional to population size and clinical expertise already in place. The MOC used the data from 2016 census to predict demand and will need to be reviewed once 2022 census data is published. Below is a detailed table of the posts funded by CHO, discipline and cost.

Total posts and budget allocated from 2022 budget for Eating disorders Mini Hub Teams by post

PFG Year	CHO	ISA	Position Roll-Up	WTE 2022	Budget 2022
PFG 2022	1	Adult Cavan / Monaghan Mini Hub	CNS	1.0	73,741
PFG 2022	1	Adult Sligo / Leitrim Mini Hub	Consultant	0.2	41,676
PFG 2022	1	Adult Cavan / Monaghan Mini Hub	Consultant	0.2	41,676
PFG 2022	1	Adult Sligo / Leitrim Mini Hub	Grade III	1.0	39,131
PFG 2022	1	Adult Cavan / Monaghan Mini Hub	Grade III	1.0	39,131
PFG 2022	1	Adult Sligo / Leitrim Mini Hub	Senior Clinical Psychologist	1.0	109,310
PFG 2022	1	Adult Sligo / Leitrim Mini Hub	Senior Dietitian	1.0	71,939
PFG 2022	1	Adult Cavan / Monaghan Mini Hub	Senior Dietitian	1.0	71,939
PFG 2022	5	Waterford / Wexford / Carlow / Kilkenny	Adult Consultant	1.0	208,380
PFG 2022	5	Waterford / Wexford / Carlow / Kilkenny	Clinical Team Coordinator	0.5	35,969
PFG 2022	5	Waterford / Wexford / Carlow / Kilkenny	CNS	2.0	147,482
PFG 2022	5	Waterford / Wexford / Carlow / Kilkenny	Consultant	0.2	41,676
PFG 2022	5	Waterford / Wexford / Carlow / Kilkenny	Grade IV	1.0	45,320
PFG 2022	5	Waterford / Wexford / Carlow / Kilkenny	HST / Senior Registrar	1.0	92,968
PFG 2022	5	Waterford / Wexford / Carlow / Kilkenny	Senior Clinical Psychologist	1.0	109,310



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PFG 2022	5	Waterford / Wexford / Carlow / Kilkenny	Senior Dietitian	1.0	71,939
PFG 2022	5	Waterford / Wexford / Carlow / Kilkenny	Senior Occupational Therapist	1.0	71,939
PFG 2022	5	Waterford / Wexford / Carlow / Kilkenny	Senior Social Worker	1.0	79,796

Capital Costs: This cost varies from each CHO depending on their stock of available premises that are suitable to retro fit to the standard outlined in the Model of Care. Each CHO works with local estates and national estates to find a suitable solution.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Amir Niazi
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Clinical Design and Innovation
Health Service Executive