



11th July, 2022

Deputy Thomas Gould, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

PQ 33115/22: To ask the Minister for Health the average annual salary of a community development worker in the addiction sector.

PQ 33119/22: To ask the Minister for Health the average annual salary of an addiction counsellor.

Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. Your PQ's above have been referred to me for response.

In relation to **PQ 33115/22** the average estimated cost of a community development worker in the addiction sector which comes under the Grade type Family Support Worker (Grade Code 6416) is €38,638 per annum.

In relation to **PQ 33119/22** the average estimated cost of an addiction counsellor which comes under the Grade type Counsellor (Grade Code 391T) is €69,346 per annum.

The estimates were provided by the National Pay Unit of the National Finance Division and are calculated using the mid-point of the October 2021 HSE pay scales. From this, an average annual fully burdened salary is calculated (i.e. including average premium and employers PRSI) for the Grade and position noted.

In addition to the pay costs above it is reasonable to assume that there are other non-pay costs associated with the recruitment process i.e. advertising, interview boards, possible travel expenses etc. which would also be incurred. There may also be ancillary support services associated with new posts arising from the implied additional activity that would be undertaken as a result of the increased number of staff. Some of these services may be drawn from existing cost pools however there may be incremental costs incurred i.e. facilities costs, admin support, medical support teams etc. These have not been included in the estimates above.

The estimated annual pay costs of employing additional staff must be considered in this context.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me



Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eamon Keenan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Prof Eamon Keenan
National Clinical Lead - Addiction Services