



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

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

05<sup>th</sup> April 2022

**PQ Number: 14697/22**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the supports that are in place in CHO 9 for peer educators in mental health; the way that it can access funding and resources; and if he will make a statement on the matter - Mark Ward**

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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.

Recovery Education is one of the key driver of the HSE Mental Health services approach to delivering a recovery orientated service as set out in our national policy 'Sharing the Vision'. The objective of Recovery Education is to increase opportunities for service users to achieve personal recovery outcomes. Recovery Education is delivered through a co-production approach between HSE Staff, Service users, family members, NGO partners.

Over the past number of years Recovery Education has been piloted and developed across CHO's according to service readiness. The introduction of Recovery Education requires a significant level of capacity building before the service can be introduced. However Recovery education services are now established in seven CHO's across the country and the National Forensic Service with approximately 60 peer educators employed with €1.05m additionally funding awarded to recovery education in 2022.

Currently CHO 9 do not have peer educators employed. A service improvement working group was established in CHO 9 to identify the recovery education needs of the service. The working group advised that the CHO model to be adopted would be to help people integrate in to the community education system. They would develop/strengthen relationships with mainstream adult education providers in order to identify supports available for Service Users. If the needs of CHO 9 change in regard to Recovery Education they will be able to access national support to introduce peer educators.



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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Ryan".

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**Jim Ryan**  
**Assistant National Director - Head of Operations**  
**National Mental Health Services**