



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

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Deputy Bernard J. Durkan.  
Dail Eireann,  
Dublin 2.

27th April 2022

**PQ Number: 17279/22**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the extent to which mental health services are being provided and augmented in line with specific needs in particular locations; and if he will make a statement on the matter- Bernard J. Durkan**

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Dear Deputy Durkan,

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.

Sharing the Vision A Mental Health Policy for Everyone (2020) provides the policy framework for the continued development and enhancement of mental health services in Ireland. The policy adopts a lifecycle approach to address the needs of the population by placing the individual at the centre of service delivery at different stages throughout the lifecycle.

It aims to enhance the provision of mental health services and supports across a continuum of care, including:

- mental health promotion
- prevention and early intervention
- acute and specialist mental health services

Some intended outcomes are:

- the creation of a mental health system that focuses on the requirements of the individual
- the development and delivery of a range of integrated activities to promote positive mental health in the community
- increased participation of service users, families, carers and supporters in the design of mental health services
- the enhanced provision of accessible, comprehensive and community-based mental health services
- enhanced capacity of primary care services to respond to mental health needs, thereby reducing the requirement for specialist mental health services



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Further information can be found here:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/2e46f-sharing-the-vision-a-mental-health-policy-for-everyone/>

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

Yours sincerely,

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