



Oifig an Stiúirthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta  
Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte

Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin, Baile Phámar,  
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Deputy Mark Ward.  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

**PQ Number: 39543/23**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 815 of 13 July 2023, to provide a breakdown of where the €14 million of new development funding was allocated for new services in mental health; for an update on overspend or underspend of this funding; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward**

**Previous PQ: 35328/23**

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 line with the HSE's National Service Plan 2023, Mental Health have a 2023 budget allocation of €1,226.7m to deliver Mental Health services across the country. This includes a figure of €14m for new development funding for 2023 to deliver new services.

The breakdown for Mental Health is per the National Service Plan pg. 93 as below

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/serviceplans/national-service-plan-2023.pdf>

2023 New Measures	Cost in 2023	2023 Funding	2023 PNS Affordability Framework (Column A - B)	Full Year Cost in 2024	Incremental Funding in 2024 (Column D - A)
	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m
	Column A	Column B	Column C	Column D	Column E
<b>Mental Health</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>
New accommodation costs - rent	2.0	2.0	-	2.0	-
Emergency Private Placements	3.0	3.0	-	3.0	-
Non-HSE (s39) developments	9.0	9.0	-	9.2	0.2



In relation to the underspend relating to the €14m new developments. These are all non pay developments and will be all fully incurred by year end with the exception of Crisis Resolution Services.

The €1.5m non pay funding aligned to Crisis Resolution Services supports the development and implementation of the Solace Café Model. Solace Cafés will provide out-of-hours, friendly and supportive community based adult crisis prevention and crisis response service, often in the evenings and at weekends in a café style/non-clinical safe environment.

The service will be managed by an identified community partner, working collaboratively with each learning site to deliver a quality service. The HSE has developed an agreed Model of Care and Standard Operating Procedure for developing Crisis Response Services. Some delays have been experienced in relation to recruitment and securing a community partner. However, one café is currently operational, with the remaining four learning sites progressing the development of Service Level Agreements with community partners aligned to the requirements of the Standard Operating Procedure for Solace Cafés.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Mc Cusker', written over a horizontal line.

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