



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta  
Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte

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

14<sup>th</sup> of February 2024

**PQ Number: 1784/24**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health to provide some details in relation to recovery colleges, announced as part of the CAMHS approach to mental health; and if he will make a statement, on the matter- John Lahart**

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Dear Deputy Lahart

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 a key driver of a recovery-oriented service as set out in our national policy 'Sharing the Vision' and is one of the strategic priorities in the Office of Mental Health Engagement and Recovery's (MHER) strategic plan 2023-2026. Recovery Education seeks to build the recovery capacity and competency of all stakeholders utilizing the lived experience of Service users, Family members, Carers and supporters in co-production with the clinical and professional expertise of mental health professionals. Recommendation 29 of 'Sharing the Vision' specifically focuses on building the recovery competency of mental health staff.

The establishment of Recovery Education in adult services has been the focus of the HSE up until now but 'recovery' and 'recovery education' is applicable to all service user populations. In that regard the development of Recovery Education in Youth Mental Health (CAMHS) is a key priority, to be achieved through the MHER strategic plan during the lifetime of the strategic plan in partnership with the national Youth Mental Health office.

In that regard in 2023 in Community Health Care West a pilot Recovery (*Discovery*) College was established in partnership with Mental Health Ireland. This college was co-produced/co-created with young people using our services and families and began delivering Recovery Education in Q3 of 2023. 38 recovery education workshops were delivered across CAMHS, Community and school settings with 581 young people participating. Feedback received from all participants was very positive with 95% of respondents saying the workshops fostered an increased sense of hopefulness around their mental wellbeing.



The youth mental health/CAMHS Recovery College will be evaluated in 2024 with a view to informing the development of youth Recovery Colleges across all services in 2025 and beyond

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Ryan".

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**Michael Ryan**

**General Manager**

**National Mental Health Services**

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Ryan".

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**Michael Ryan**

**General Manager**

**National Office of Mental Health Engagement and Recovery**