



Oifig na Seirbhísí Sláinte Meabhrach  
Cúram Sláinte Pobail Corcaigh & Ciarraí

Teach Caha, Párc Ghnó & Teicneolaíochta,  
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15<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Mr. Michael Healy-Rae, T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 22426/24**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if there are plans to recruit another peer support facilitator with the psychiatric team in UHK in view of the fact there are currently only two positions; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”**

**PQ ref 25525/24**

**“To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 561 of 21 May 2024, if a case can be referred (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.”**

**Details supplied: Minister I refer to the PQ reply 22426 where it was refer to UHK for reply however is was for Psychiatric services in UHK and UHK have stated it is not for them. Can this now please be referred to Kerry Mental Health Services**

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted for the Minister for Health for a response. I apologise for the delay in reverting to you with this response.

There are currently two Peer Support Workers employed in Kerry Mental Health Services and their contribution forms an integral part of the recovery model of service in Kerry Mental Health Services. They offer peer in-put across all areas of the service including the Sliabh Mis Unit.

The National Mental Health Engagement and Recovery Office is currently reviewing the governance structures with regard to Peer Support Workers and Kerry Mental Health Services is waiting on clarification in relation to same. In tandem the KMHS is reviewing the Peer Support Model locally.

Additionally Cork Kerry Mental Health Services provides funding in the region of €59,000 to Kerry Peer Support Network and are committed to working with them to provide appropriate pathways for our service users.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

**Ms. Julie O' Neill**  
**Head of Service**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**