



Deputy Sorca Clarke
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

30th June 2025

PQ Number: 35429/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the estimated cost of fully staffed emergency mental health services and regional crisis response teams. -Sorca Clarke

Dear Deputy Clarke

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.

Under the HSE Corporate Plan 2020-2023, and in line with Recommendations 24 and 40 of Sharing the Vision: A Mental Health Policy for Everyone 2020, HSE Mental Health will develop, implement and evaluate a pilot model of Crisis Resolution Services; incorporating Crisis Resolution Teams and Cafes to offer an alternative response to inpatient admission, when appropriate.

Crisis Resolution Services will form an integral part of the Service User Journey, working in tandem with existing services to provide an integrated 24/7 multi-agency mental health crisis de-escalating service.

HSE Mental Health has committed to a programme of work to inform the development of Crisis Resolution Services on a phased basis:

- The development of a pilot Model of Care for Crisis Resolution Services
- Pilot testing and implementation of Crisis Resolution Services across a number of sites, incorporating a rural/urban mix
- Monitoring and evaluation of pilot implementation of Crisis Resolution Services.

A phased approach to the development of Crisis Resolution Services will provide the opportunity to test and learn across pilot sites, and provide the evidence required to inform service planning; including budgetary requirements into the future. For the purposes of implementing the pilot, the following considerations informed the budget allocation required for each pilot site:

- The WTE requirement to support a population catchment of 100,000-120,000
- The staffing mix recommended for a multidisciplinary Crisis Resolution Team working to core hours



Existing resources available within each pilot site (capital and staffing)

The Model of Care for Crisis Resolution Services outlines the following as the minimum requirement of a Crisis Resolution Team

- 1 Adult Consultant Psychiatrist
- 1 Senior Registrar
- 4 Clinical Nurse Specialists
- 1 Senior Clinical Psychologist
- 1 Senior Social Worker
- 1 Senior Occupational Therapist
- 1 Admin Grade IV

An additional Clinical Nurse Manager role has been incorporated to the Teams to manage referrals and triage processing in 2025. The total staffing cost for the core team of 11 WTEs is €1.414m.

To support the roll out of the Crisis Resolution Services Model of Care, and additional €300,000 is also provided to support the development and roll out of the Solace Café service by an agreed Community Partner through an SLA agreement.

The total cost of the Crisis Resolution Team and Solace Café is €1.714m.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

Tony McCusker
General Manager
Access and Integration; HSE Mental Health Services