



Oifig an Chomhairleora Chliniciúil
Náisiúnta agus Ceannaire Grúpa do
Mheabhairshláinte

HSE, Ospidéal an Dr Stevens, Baile Átha
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Deputy Sorca Clarke,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

2nd September 2025

PQ Number: 41755/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the estimated annual cost of fully staffing and resourcing all perinatal mental health teams across the six RHAs. -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.

The *Model of Care for Specialist Perinatal Mental Health Services* (2017) provides for the development of a national network of services, including six hub sites and thirteen spoke sites which are now in operation. In line with this Model of Care, the development of a specialist Mother and Baby Unit (MBU) on the campus of St Vincent's University Hospital is being progressed.

The Model of Care provides for 73 whole-time equivalent (WTE) posts nationally. Each of the six hub teams consists of 8 WTE multidisciplinary staff and is led by a consultant psychiatrist, with 2 midwives also based in each hub. Thirteen spoke sites are supported by their hub teams and each has a dedicated midwife in place.

Based on indicative costs of approximately €80,000 per WTE and €349,650 per consultant psychiatrist, the estimated annual funding requirement to fully staff and resource all Specialist Perinatal Mental Health Teams is in the region of €6.5 million to €6.9 million. Final costs will vary depending on discipline, grade, and pay awards.

I trust this information is of assistance to you

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Amir Niazi
National Clinical Advisor & Group Lead for Mental Health
Clinical Design and Innovation
Health Service Executive