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Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Cúnta
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Deputy Richard O' Donoghue,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Date: 25th March 2025

PQ Number: 10584/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health to provide a ring-fenced, multi-annual funding for specialist hubs that are fully resourced, staffed, and accessible to everyone across Ireland; and if she will make a statement on the matter. -Richard O'Donoghue

Additional Details: I can advise that the Deputy has clarified that this PQ relates to eating disorder services

Dear Deputy O' Donoghue,

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 HSE has prioritised eating disorder services as part of National Clinical Programmes (NCP's) and has established a specific clinical programme for eating disorders. The NCPs aim to develop person-centred, integrated care through a clinician-led, evidence-based approach to service reform. The need for specialist services is reflected in *Sharing the Vision* and more recently in the new Programme for Government.

The HSE published the National Service Plan for 2025 on 14th January 2025. The plan sets out the delivery by the HSE of a range of health and social care services that will be provided to the people of Ireland within the allocated budget of €26.9bn, a €1.6bn increase on 2024. The plan includes investment in new service developments including enhancing mental health services.

The NSP finance chapter shows the overall HSE budget broken down to individual care group level and outlines the Mental Health budget in totality. However, the creation of ring-fenced, multi-annual funding for specialist eating disorder hubs is matter for the Minister of Health to determine.

Further detail on the NSP 2025 can be found here:

<https://about.hse.ie/publications/hse-national-service-plan-2025/>

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Michael Ryan
General Manager
Access and Integration, Mental Health Engagement and Recovery