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Oifig an Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta Cúnta
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Deputy David Cullinane
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

12th June 2025

PQ Number: 28698/25

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the estimated revenue and capital cost associated with the set-up of a new Jigsaw centre, in tabular form; and the whole-time equivalent staffing requirements. -David Cullinane

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

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 regularly meets with Jigsaw as part of our Service Level Agreement meetings where any potential expansion of services is discussed. The HSE also have regular engagements with the Department of Health in relation to service requirements and developments. The expansion of Jigsaw services can only be considered through our annual estimates process, along with the consideration of all other health service developments.

Having consulted with Jigsaw directly, I am advised that the costs of establishing a new Jigsaw service are comprised of three elements:

- Local service costs (including local staffing)
- National support costs (including IT, HR, Finance, etc.)
- Premises costs

These will vary somewhat, depending on the size of the service/team, the type/condition of premises that is secured and the number of services being established (development of multiple services would incur some additional national support costs, for example).

In a submission made to Minister Butler in May 2025 about the establishment of a new Jigsaw service in Waterford, Jigsaw advised that the overall local revenue cost was €677,780, including staffing costs of €592,780 for a 9 WTE team.

The capital costs associated with establishing a new Jigsaw service are dependent on the type and condition of premises that are available and the size/location of the service.



Jigsaw's existing network of services operates from a range of different premises types, including some that are provided by Local Authorities (e.g. in Dublin City and in Fingal), one that is co-located within a Primary Care Centre (in Roscommon), and others that are privately rented by Jigsaw. Because identifying and fitting out a suitable premises can prove to be both a time-consuming and a costly exercise when working to establish a new service, Jigsaw's preference is for a co-location option within another local partner agency, be that Local Authority, HSE or other suitable setting. Where such a premises is available, capital costs are minimal (furniture and possibly some minor fit out costs), estimated at €30k-€50k.

In the event that no such options are available, Jigsaw also has accumulated experience in sourcing, securing and fitting out premises and would be in a position to start work on that immediately once approval and funding were committed. The associated costs would be kept to a minimum but would be dependent on the condition and layout of the premises involved and also on the size of the service/team. Jigsaw have estimated that the cost of fully fitting out rented premises range from approximately €250k-€400k, depending on condition.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours Sincerely,

Paul Braham
Senior Operations Manager (Area DON)
Access and Integration; HSE Mental Health Services