



12th October, 2021

Deputy Violet-Anne Wynne, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

Re PQ: 46499/21

To ask the Minister for Health the amount of the HSE overall budget that has been allocated to domestic, sexual and gender-based violence supports between 2016 and 2020.

Dear Deputy Wynne,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your 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 Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have examined the matter and the following table outlines the position:

The total expenditure that can be attributed to domestic, sexual and gender-based violence supports from Social Inclusion within the HSE is set out in the below table for the period 2016-2020.

2016	€603,590
2017	€648,090
2018	€698,840
2019	€694,830
2020	€708,380

€3.3 million of HSE Homeless funding, which was supporting the Domestic Violence Refuges transferred to TUSLA in January 2014.

In addition to services provided by HSE Social Inclusion, other Areas of the HSE provide services in relation to domestic, sexual and gender-based violence supports including Mental Health, Acute



Hospital Services and Emergency Departments, Primary Care Services and GPs providing front line services and attributed budgets are not available.

For example funding for the Sexual Assault Treatment Units (SATUs) is not individualised within each hospital. A Policy Review in 2019, identified actions to support improvements in SATUs centered on 3 areas:

1. Consistency
2. Sustainability
3. Coordination

The actions included:

- Increasing and ring-fencing the SATU budget by 25%
- Improving pathways and connections to wider health services, childrens services, social services and justice
- Developing robust national oversight of this critical area of health service delivery
- Supporting a more sustainable SATU workforce to ensure excellent care for vulnerable patients
- Expanding the SATU service so that the longer-term emotional and social needs of patients are looked after as well as their immediate medical and forensic needs.

An additional €550,000 was allocated to SATUs in 2020.

For the Deputy's information, the HSE Women's Health Service (WHS) and Anti-Human Trafficking Team (AHTT) is a statutory service provided by the Health Service Executive. The WHS operates sexual health clinic services and outreach support to women/trans women involved in the sex industry. The AHTT has responsibility for care planning for both female/male victims of trafficking in all areas of exploitation. From the period 2018 to 2020, the HSE provided funding to this service to the amount of €1,379,752. The direct allocation attributed towards domestic, sexual and gender-based violence supports is unavailable.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Joseph Doyle
National Lead, Social Inclusion