



31th May 2022

Deputy Niamh Smyth, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

Re PQ: 25117/22

To ask the Minister for Health the estimated full-year cost to assign targeted health measures for Travellers, Roma, migrants and other disadvantaged women given documented differentials in health.

Dear Deputy Smyth,

I refer to your above Parliamentary Question which had been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

Social Inclusion in the HSE works with a range of statutory services in partnership with the community and voluntary sectors to address health inequalities and improve access to health services for vulnerable and excluded groups. Key groups experiencing exclusion and inequality include: homeless people; people who use drugs and alcohol in a harmful way; migrants, refugees and international protection applicants; Traveller and Roma communities; LGBTI+ people; and people who experience DSGBV.

Currently, Social Inclusion are not in a position to report on expenditure and budget by service category or gender. The current financial reporting system is aligned to Annual Financial Statement type (i.e. nursing pay, Drugs & Medicines etc.) and does not align to the services and sub-services in operation. The Future Health Report identified the financial and service information systems of the Health Service as not fit for purpose. In order to address this, over 200 legacy financial systems will be moved to a Single Integrated Financial and Procurement Management System (IFMS). This process is now underway and the IFMS project is currently in the detailed design phase. When the IFMS system is fully implemented, Social Inclusion will be in a position to report on expenditure and budget by service category.

For the Deputy's information the opening budget NSP 2022 Social Inclusion was €186m which is an increase of 17m (or 10.1% from NSP 2021) and includes €11m under ELS and €6m for New Measures. This is in addition to costs attributed to other areas of the HSE that provide services to vulnerable and excluded groups – these include Health Promotion, Mental Health, Acute Hospital Services and Emergency Departments, and Primary Care.



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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Doyle', written in a cursive style.

Joseph Doyle
National Lead, Social Inclusion