



31th May 2022

Deputy Jennifer Murnane O'Connor, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

Re PQ: 25199/22

To ask the Minister for Health the estimated full-year cost to resource dedicated peer health keyworkers in communities to ensure equality of information and access for vulnerable and marginalised women.

Dear Deputy,

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

Based on a similar model, the HSE National Service Plan 2021 provided for two community health workers in each CHO to develop and support effective links and demonstrate joint working in the community between the various statutory, community and voluntary sectors and other key stakeholders. The full year cost of the 18 community health workers is €873,000.

The role includes assisting migrants from diverse ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds to obtain equal access and opportunities across the Irish healthcare services including eligibility assessment for medical cards ensuring that applicants for International Protection and the Roma community can get an appropriate level of care in line with resource availability.

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

