



Pre-Budget 2022 Submission



Mental Health Reform
Promoting Improved Mental Health Services

AT LEAST €85M IN MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES NEEDED IN 2022



COVID-19 has had a detrimental impact on people's mental health and exposed serious gaps in our mental health system. Thousands of people in Ireland are struggling to access the support that they need.



It has been over a year since the Government published its national mental health policy, *Sharing the Vision*. The policy sets out an ambitious plan for the future of our mental health system. If the Government is serious about the success of *Sharing the Vision*, investment is needed.

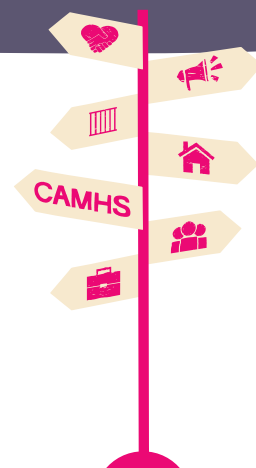
Mental Health Reform, together with our 77 member organisations, call on the Government to

INVEST €85MILLION IN OUR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR BUDGET 2022

€20 MILLION
to maintain
existing services



€65 MILLION
to develop new services that
will drive change in the system



WHAT DOES THE GOVERNMENT NEED TO INVEST IN?



Increase spending on mental health to 10% of the total health budget by 2024



Increase staffing levels across mental health services



Invest in mental health in primary care



Expand Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)



Support the Community & Voluntary sector



Invest in advocacy services for people with mental health difficulties



Invest in the Individual Placement and Support scheme



Access to affordable housing for people with mental health disabilities



Improve mental health supports in the prison system

WHY INVEST IN MENTAL HEALTH?



In 2021, the national mental health budget represents only 5.1% of the total health budget.

The W.H.O. recommends

12%

Sláintecare recommends

10%

The UK spends almost

13%



Staff shortages result in long waiting lists, lack of particular therapies, and negative effects on treatment and continuity of care. Investment in more psychologists, social workers, occupational therapists and peer support workers is needed to meet growing demand.



Investment in primary care improves access to psychology services, talk therapies, counselling, psychologists, social workers and social prescribing. Early intervention plays a critical role in reducing more serious mental health challenges.



In March 2021, there were over 2,700 children and young people on a waiting list for specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).



The Community & Voluntary sector provide vital mental health services. Funding demonstrates support for the valuable, essential and complementary role of the sector.



There are significant gaps in advocacy supports for people with mental health difficulties. National advocacy services need to be funded in hospitals, prisons, residences and in the community.



The Individual Placement and Support (IPS) approach is an effective method for supporting people with mental health difficulties to achieve sustainable employment.



There is inadequate supported living and social housing available for people with mental health disabilities. Funding is needed for the Department of Housing to deliver on the National Housing Strategy for people with Disabilities.



Prisoners with mental health difficulties are a very vulnerable group whose needs are not being met due to poor capacity and lack of access to mental health services.

GET INVOLVED

[mentalhealthreform.ie](https://www.mentalhealthreform.ie)

Contact your local TD

<https://action.uplift.ie/campaigns/email-your-tds-mental-health-budget-2022>

View our full pre budget submission

www.mentalhealthreform.ie/budget-22/

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