

CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT

The operation of the CREI will cost about 850,000 euros a year

The awarding body of the center will have to do community work with the surrounding neighbors

Minors under state guardianship may be admitted with the prior permission of a mayor

COMÚ D'ANDORRA LA VELLA / TONY LARA



►► The authorities are visiting the progress of the CREI adaptation works, in the last month of February.

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The operation of the Residential Center for Intensive Education (CREI) will cost approximately 850,000 euros annually. This emerges from the answer published last Tuesday by the Government, and more specifically from the Minister of Social Affairs, Youth and Equality, Judith Pallarés, to the control questions asked by the President of the Social Democratic Party, Pere López, regarding this resource. Going into the details of the figure, the Executive estimates that residential care will cost around 787,000 euros, while day care will cost 57,000. It should be noted, however, that while residential service is “guaranteed and free” for teens, as it is fully funded by the government, the day benefit

will be co-paid.

In this sense, Pallarés specified that each place of residential care has a cost of around 270 euros per day per person - one unoccupied costs 189 and 80 overcrowded - and the day has a price of approximately 46 euros per day per user -32 if it is empty and 14 if it is overcrowded-. On the other hand, the Minister’s response also pointed out that day care will only be offered on weekdays. In addition, the Executive indicated that the CREI will have a maximum capacity of 19 residential places and 16 in the day service, all of them intended only for people with legal residence in the Principality and without thinking about the possibility to receive users resident abroad. Specifically, the purpose of the CREI will be to care for adolescents and young people between the ages of 12 and 18 who have recur-

Pallarés defenses that the concession management model will improve the efficiency and quality of the service

ring behavioral disorders or addictions that endanger their integrity or that of third parties, and between 12 and 21 to day service with the same impact, but which due to their severity do not require residential care. In any case, it is also envisaged that minors who are under the care of the State may be cared for in the center and in a residential system, always with the prior authorization of the competent mayor of the juvenile jurisdiction. With a view to integrating the service into the community, the Minister explained that the Government is initiating communications with the Municipality of Andorra la Vella to schedule a visit to the CREI facilities and an explanation of the project with all residents of the area around the center, which will be located on the premises of the former Solà d’Enclar residence, in Santa Coloma. But beyond

the figures

270 euros per person per day will cost the occupied residential place, and 46 during the day.

35 places in total, 19 for the residence regime and 16 more for the day service.

2.9 million euros invested in the last three years in the CREI, mostly to rehabilitate the space.

this meeting, the awarding body will have the responsibility to carry out community work with this neighborhood, «from an universal point of view, prevention, promotion and support».

Moreover, with regard to the type of management of the resource, Pallarés shared that it has been decided to hold a tender for the concession of this service, reaffirming that the model of indirect management of public services allows the Administration «to maintain the necessary supervisory powers to ensure the proper development of services», but will improve the efficiency and quality of the service provided, as it can be contracted to an entity already specialized in the sector and with experience and expertise in the matter”. This format, defended the head of Social Affairs, will also offer more agility in terms of hiring professionals and services, as well as organizing their planning. In this sense, López’s response states that the professional profiles that can be found at the center will be social educators, psychologists and teachers, in addition to management, administration and security.

As a last resort, the Government indicated that the investment made in the last three years in the CREI has been about 2.9 million euros, most of which (2.7 million) correspond to the rehabilitation works of the building where the center will be located. ≡

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HEALTH

Espot leaves the door open for dialogue about the portfolio of services

The head of government convenes a new meeting with the College of Professionals to discuss the disagreements

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The head of government, Xavier Espot, has broken the silence and has shown his position on the new CASS service portfolio. Espot stated that «from the Government we are open to dialogue, and even to a possible re-touching or modification».

This portfolio of services has caused controversy, as after its approval and during a press conference, the College of Professionals showed its disagreement. In this line, the head of government pointed out that «there is a part of wear and tear that we already knew would lead to this portfolio of services, and I think we all need to be aware that this is necessary to improve the quality of service and contain health spending and, therefore, had to move forward».

On the one hand, the president of the College of Speech Therapists,

With the new portfolio of services, a patient will not need to go to the specialist doctor to renew a treatment

Sara Fité, stated that made the day before, everything was already given and blessed. However, a week later, Espot considers that «I am aware that this portfolio of services has been in dialogue, debating, talking to the different professional associations for months» and also noted that «perhaps some schools aspired to a definitive return that has not taken place. However, now it is a matter of sitting down again and having a leisurely and discreet dialogue, and a bilateral work with each professional association, because some decisions that some schools like do not like others.»

On the other hand, the president of the College of Podiatrists, Nerea Miguel, stated that «from the podiatry sector, we emphasize our disagreement with the regulations on the referring doctor or nurse referring the patient to be able to visit with the podiatrist. We think that



►► Archive image of the CASS headquarters.



Xavier Espot
HEAD OF GOVERNMENT



«Perhaps some schools aspired to a definitive return that has not taken place. Now it is a matter of a slow and bilateral dialogue»

«We know that health care spending will increase as a result of the new benefits in the portfolio, and we need to contain it»

this change will lead to an increase in the cost of the patient, the CASS and a delay in the visit ». At the same time, Fité also added that «if before the portfolio our patients had to go through a long circuit, forcing them to go from the doctor referring to the speech therapist and again to the referring doctor to refer them before they could start a treatment, now and thanks to this portfolio of services a third intermediary is added who is the rehabilitation doctor or the specialist. We are facing a real crossroads of the patient «to which he also added that» if the speech therapist is the only doctor specializing in language, it makes sense that he should be supervised by a specialist whose skills are to

nists, gender dysphoria and psychology will have an added cost, which we must contain as much as possible, already that health spending is financed by the general state budget and, therefore, by the taxes that all citizens pay.

So far, the differences between the government and the schools have not been resolved. However, Espot said that, at the moment, «the issue is closely interrelated with the future approval of the mother law of health professions, and therefore we have called for a future meeting with the Minister of Health, the Secretary of State of European Affairs and health professionals to be able to talk again about these concerns.»

do very little or nothing to do with language?

Responding to this question, Espot pointed out that «the establishment of the portfolio of services does not mean that certain acts cannot be carried out, as this only refers to the procedures reimbursed by the Andorran Social Security Fund. Therefore, if an individual wants to go to a general practitioner, and when they have to renew the session, they do not want to go to the specialist doctor to go, for example, to a physiotherapist, they can continue to do so. That is to say, we do not attribute attributions to the groups, what we do is to protocolize and to establish limits from the perspective of the public reimbursement»

Finally, the head of government stated that «we know that health care spending will increase. We start from the premise that as a result of the new benefits that are being added in the field of assisted reproduction di-

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