



14th March 2019

Deputy Joan Collins
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 10383/19 To ask the Minister for Health the number of drug and alcohol task forces that have had a HSE review; the amount the reviews have cost to date including the canal communities drug and alcohol task force; and the person or body that decides if a particular task force is to be reviewed.

Dear Deputy Collins,

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:

In the last number of years 2 Section 39 Task Force reviews were commissioned via the HSE; the North Inner City Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force (NICLDATF) and the Canal Communities Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force (CCLDATF). The cost of the review to date of the NICLDATF is €4,950 (note is currently being finalised) and €9,500 of the CCLDATF.

The HSE regularly carries out reviews of Section 39 funded services across care groups. A review is an important part of HSE's monitoring and oversight responsibilities supporting accountability, transparency and ensuring that service provision is responding to and meeting the identified needs. The HSE's National Financial Regulations outline the high level framework within which the internal financial control system of the HSE operates. For the Deputy's information see <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/financial%20regulations/>

These regulations have been prepared with the intention of ensuring that the financial controls in operation within the HSE are consistent with:

- Irish and EU statutory requirements
- Achievement of Best Value for Money
- Department of Health and Government policies and guidelines
- Presently available best practice appropriately interpreted for the Irish Public Health Service context.

The local HSE management teams in CHO 9 and CHO 6/7 have conducted the reviews.

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

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Doyle
National Planning Specialist

