

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare
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April 9th 2019

Billy Kelleher T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 13627/19

"To ask the Minister for Health his plans for the HSE to provide a drug detox and rehabilitation facility in Cork city; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Kelleher,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare is in the process of planning the development of a step-up service in Cork City to support individuals who wish to access residential detoxification beds and other drug and alcohol services. The proposed service will provide a number of beds for a medically supervised inpatient stabilisation programme with 24hr nursing and medical support for patients. The service would be for people who have a primary problem with:

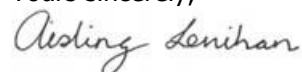
- Opiate use
- Benzodiazepines
- Alcohol
- Polydrug use, relating to a combination of drugs and/or alcohol

This development would address both deficits in current services and new initiatives to allow the HSE achieve targets identified by action 2.1.13 of the National Drug and Alcohol Strategy 2018-2025, 'Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery': 'Expand the availability and geographical spread of relevant quality drug and alcohol services and improve the range of services available based on identified need.' Other cross cutting strategies include 'Connecting for Life' in relation to suicide prevention and Healthy Ireland in relation to expansion of services nationally for drug and alcohol problems.

The planning for this development is currently underway with a potential start date of early 2020. Further details will be made available when the development plans are finalised.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Aisling Lenihan
A/Head of Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare