

Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County Bainisteoir Ginearálta, Cuimsiú Sóisialta – Seirbhíse Andúile, Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Tuaisceart Chathair & Tuaisceart Chontae Bhaile Átha Cliath, Saoráid Cúram Sláinte Bhaile Munna, Bhaile Munna, Baile Átha Cliath 9, DO9 C8P5.

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15th October 2019

Ms. Louise O'Reilly, TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

PQ 41013/19: To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider the opening of a drug treatment centre in north County Dublin in view of the increased population of the area and an increase in the number of persons seeking help for drug addiction – Louise O'Reilly

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

HSE Social Inclusion/Addiction service provision is provided in North County Dublin through a range of targeted services including a number of direct HSE run services, North Dublin Drug & Alcohol Task Force funded service and a range of Section 39 funded services. Together these services work in partnership to provide services focused on meeting local need.

At present the HSE Social Inclusion Service Dublin North City & County are operating weekly opioid substitution programs in Swords Health Centre, Howth Satellite Clinic, and Donabate Health Centre. In each of these clinics clients have access to GP, Nursing and Outreach services.

In addition HSE Social Inclusion Service Dublin North City & County are operating adult addiction counselling clinics in Balbriggan, Swords, Howth and Donabate. We are also operating adolescent addiction counselling clinics in Balbriggan and Swords.

The North Dublin Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force is funded through the HSE to provide a range of substance use supports in North County Dublin these include:

North Dublin Community Care Service Adult drug & alcohol service (18+ years old)

The service is delivered by four case workers, manager, two admin staff and also includes two days a week addiction counselling. The service includes assessment, key working, care planning and case management and is based in Swords (Applewood) previously Main Street, Swords covering all of North County Dublin

Fingal Families

Service for family members impacted by familial substance use:

The service is delivered by a Family Support Specialist and part time Family Support Worker. The service includes assessment, 5 Step, Triple P, Peer Groups, One to One, Young Person Programme, STRONG Programme, information and advice based in Malahide. It covers all of North County Dublin (New service development in 2018 supported by HSE Section 39 funding).

Health Promotion Service

The service includes drug health promotion, prevention and education for groups, schools and whole community including support to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Groups in Skerries, Rush/Lusk, Balbriggan, Malahide/Portmarnock/Kinsealy, Rural, Donabate/Portrane and Swords. (New service development in 2018 supported by HSE Section 39 funding)

Youth Addiction Teams Crosscare Drug & Alcohol Programme (DAP)

This service is for young people aged 12-24 years old who are having problems with drugs. HSE and Task Force funds DAP for two Youth Addiction Teams each with one Youth Addiction Worker and one Youth Substance use counsellor. This service operates in Swords and Balbriggan and covers all North County Dublin. (One of the teams was a new service development in 2019 supported through Task Force Funding)

Task Force Child and family programme

The Task Force also supports an Early Intervention Counselling Service (age 12-18) in substance abuse and mental health areas for children experiencing challenges to good mental health, the service is based in Skerries and Malahide.

Coolmine Therapeutic Community

The Task Force also funds a targeted Traveller and New Community adult drug service. This service provides outreach, assessment, key working, care planning for Travellers and new communities in North County Dublin. The service is based in Balbriggan covering all of North County Dublin.

There are no plans to open any further drug treatment centres in the area.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Dónal Cassidy General Manager

Social Inclusion/Addiction Services