



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Lacken  
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Kilkenny

Telephone 353 56 7784100

21<sup>st</sup> October 2019

Mr. Paul Kehoe T.D.  
Minister of State at the Department of Defence  
Dáil Eireann  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ 42325/19**

**To ask the Minister for Health the specific planned use of the HSE building on Georges St., Co Wexford; whether is to be used as a methadone treatment facility following the successful awarding of planning permission; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Minister Kehoe,

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

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

For clarification, the Health Service Executive applied for planning permission for change of use of its premises in George's Street which includes provision of a lift to facilitate full access to the entire building.

Key to the process of developing the new primary care centre in Grogan's Road was a review of HSE service provision and location across Wexford Town and its environs. The proposed change of use of the premises in George's Street resulted from this review.

HSE Substance Misuse Services are delivered in line with Government Policy. A broad range of services are offered to people with addictions which include alcohol, gambling, drugs, including prescription and illicit drugs. These services include assessment, counselling, care & case management, referral to specialist services. The HSE is charged with delivering services to all members of our communities and people with addictions access services across all our facilities.

There is no HSE methadone dispensing clinic in Wexford or anywhere in the South East. Included among a wide range of supports and treatments provided by Substance Misuse Services is a prescription service, whereby clients may be referred to participating pharmacies for administration of methadone in a controlled setting as part of their treatment. No decision has been made at this time as to the longer term location of the Substance Misuse Services in Wexford.

Should you have any further queries in relation to same, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

**Ms. Anna Marie Lanigan**  
**Head of Service - Primary Care**  
**South East Community Healthcare**