



1st October 2019

Deputy John Curran, TD
Dáil Éireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

PQ: 37745/19

To ask the Minister for Health the status of improved addiction service provision for under 18 year olds; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Curran,

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:

Following a mapping exercise of addiction service provision for under-18s, additional posts to support the provision of Tier 3 addiction services were identified in specific Community Health Organisations. Tier 3 services for under-18s are services which have specialist expertise in both adolescent mental health and addiction. Additional Counsellors and Clinical Nurse Specialists were identified for CHO 1 (Cavan & Monaghan) and CHO 2 (Community Healthcare West) and additional Clinical Nurse Specialists were identified for CHO 3 (Mid-West Community Healthcare) and CHO 6 (Community Healthcare East). An increase of €350,000 funding was provided to enhance the national young person's residential addiction service (the Aislinn Centre in Kilkenny).

In addition, during 2019 four workshops were held around the country to examine current service provision and explore the development of adolescent services including tele-psychiatry support from the Addiction Service Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists. These sites are currently being established which will further enhance Tier 3 services for young people.



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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Doyle', written in a cursive style.

Joseph Doyle
National Planning Specialist