



Bainisteoir Ginearálta, Seirbhís Meabhairshláinte  
Teach Ben View, Bóthar an Chláir, Ballytivnan, Sligeach, F91 F6E4  
T 071 914 0396 R: [Teresa.dykes@hse.ie](mailto:Teresa.dykes@hse.ie),

General Manager, Mental Health Service  
Ben View House, Clarion Road, Ballytivnan, Sligo, F91 F6E4  
Tel: 071 914 0396 Email: [Teresa.dykes@hse.ie](mailto:Teresa.dykes@hse.ie)

**07<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**Deputy Brendan Smith  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2address**

**RE: PQ 20926/21 "To ask the Minister for Health when a new health service will be established in counties Cavan and Monaghan (the need to establish residential treatment services for persons suffering with addiction to illegal drugs and/or alcohol abuse in Cavan/Monaghan);**

**Dear Deputy Smith**

I refer to your recent correspondence in relation to the above. The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position of the HSE.

Residential treatment for people with addictions has two different stages. A Primary Treatment Unit (PTU) is a service that provides 24/7 supports for people with addictions and delivers intensive therapy programmes allowing the Service Users to start their recovery journey. When a person does not have enough structure in their homes to continue with their recovery post discharge from PTU, they may be referred to a Secondary Treatment Unit (also known as a step down house - STU). These treatment facilities will allow people to slowly apply the skills learnt in the PTU in to different day to day situations in the community.

Cavan Monaghan does not have a PTU for people with addiction to illegal drugs and or alcohol, however, there is currently one STU based in the Cavan Monaghan geographical area. This geographical area, just like many other in the country (e.g. Sligo Leitrim, Louth Meath) may not have a PTU based in their region; however, there is a National Bed Allocation Process that gives people from all counties access to public funded beds in PTUs across the country. Therefore, every person in Cavan Monaghan geographical area will have access to these public funded beds if and when needed. For instance, there is a PTU located in Donegal, which is part of the National Bed Allocation Process.

I hope this addresses your query. If you have any further queries on this matter please let me know.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Teresa Dykes'.

**Teresa Dykes  
General Manager  
Mental Health Services, CH01.**