



4th July 2022

Deputy Thomas Gould, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

Re PQ: 33123/22

To ask the Minister for Health the average cost of providing a needle exchange service in a pharmacy.

Dear Deputy Gould,

I refer to your above Parliamentary Question which had been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

The National Pharmacy Needle Exchange programme provides for needle exchange outside the greater Dublin region. In 2021, the HSE was allocated €657,000 to operate the programme. At the end of 2021, there were 91 pharmacies participating in the programme. This gives an average cost per community pharmacy of €7,720 per pharmacy.

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

Yours sincerely,

Prof Eamon Keenan
National Clinical Lead - Addiction Services

