



Tallaght  
University  
Hospital

Ospidéal  
Ollscoile  
Thamhlachta

An Academic Partner of Trinity College Dublin

13<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Deputy Sean Crowe, TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare St.  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ 34681/22**

*To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the hospital liaison initiative that was carried out in Tallaght University Hospital in which patients with addiction issues were given a pathway toward community-based support organisations; the assessment of that pilot programme's outcomes; and if this approach has been or will be replicated in other hospitals or healthcare settings*

Dear Deputy Crowe,

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.

Tallaght University Hospital Drug and Alcohol Liaison Service commenced pilot programme between Tallaght University Hospital, St Dominic's Community Response Project and Tallaght Drug and Alcohol Task Force in late 2017. The pilot programme provided assessment, support and referral for individuals who have had a recent hospital admission as a result of drug or alcohol misuse. The pilot programme ran for 2 years and was funded through the Office for Social Inclusion. The pilot aimed to link patients to appropriate community based services upon presentation to Tallaght University Hospital for drug or alcohol related injuries or illnesses

The Liaison Service provided a timely intervention for patients after their presentation to the Hospital. Funding was not identified to continue the pilot programme, we are working with the relevant departments to submit a proposal for the 2023 service planning estimates.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

**MR JOHN KELLY**  
**DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE**