



13th July 2023

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

Re: **PQ34094/23**

To ask the Minister for Health the funding allocated in each of the past five years to address addiction issues for members of the LGBTQIA community, by year, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Questions which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position:

The €2 million Community Services Enhancement Fund was launched in 2022 to enhance community-based drug and alcohol services. The fund is part of the strategic priority to enhance access to and delivery of drug and alcohol services in the community in the National Drugs Strategy 2021-2025.

In 2022, funding was allocated as follows:

- CHOs 2, 3, 5 & 6 each received €150,000
- CHOs 1, 4, 7, 8 & 9 each received €180,000

From 2023, CSEF is allocated per Community Healthcare Organisation (CHOs) as follows:

- CHOs 2, 3, 5 & 6 will each receive €200,000
- CHOs 1, 4, 7, 8 & 9 will each receive €240,000

Community Healthcare Organisations are required to allocate and ring-fence 25 per cent of their funding allocations for initiatives to increase access to and the provision of drug and alcohol services for women, ethnic minorities and the LGBTQIA community.

The attached Table 1 lists CSEF funding allocations for initiatives to increase access to and the provision of drug and alcohol services for women, ethnic minorities and the LGBTQIA community by CHO area in 2022 and 2023.



National addiction services are also available to all. It is not possible to extract the amount of funding which was spent on treatment for members of the LGBTQIA community over the past 5 years. However, the attached Table 2 provides the number of cases entering addiction treatment by self-defined sexual orientation between 2018 and 2022, according to data from the National Drugs Treatment Reporting System.

Information on accessing national addiction services can be obtained through the National Directory of Drugs and Alcohol Services on [Drugs.ie \(http://drugs.ie/\)](http://drugs.ie), Local Health Offices, Addiction Services, as well as Primary Care General Practitioners.

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
HSE National Social Inclusion Office

Table 1: CSEF funding allocations for initiatives to increase access to and the provision of drug and alcohol services for women, ethnic minorities and the LGBTIQIA community by CHO area

CHO	2022 Ring-Fenced CSEF Funding	2023 Ring-Fenced CSEF Funding
1	45,000	60,000
2	37,500	50,000
3	37,500	50,000
4	45,000	60,000
5	37,500	50,000
6	37,500	50,000
7	45,000	60,000
8	45,000	60,000
9	45,000	60,000

Table 2: Number of cases entering treatment by self-defined sexual orientation, NDTRS 2018-2022

Self-defined sexual orientation	Year entered treatment				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Heterosexual or Straight	11017	14384	13230	15177	16749
Lesbian or Gay	213	297	252	341	327
Bisexual	75	96	86	87	128
Client did not wish to answer this question	145	294	137	153	202
Other sexual orientation not listed	0	0	11	28	15
Client does not know or is unsure	0	0	0	0	15
Not known	6288	3139	1810	1842	1994
Total	17738	18210	15526	17628	19430