

14 April 2023

Deputy Johnny Guirke
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Our Ref: EH/Communications

PQ 15584/23: To ask the Minister for Health the total annual spend on BowelScreen in each of the years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy,

I refer to the Parliamentary Question above.

About BowelScreen

BowelScreen - the national bowel screening programme, invites men and women aged 60 to 69 for bowel screening every two years. Once the person gives consent they are issued with a FIT kit (screening) which is a test done at home and returned by post at their convenience.

Bowel cancer screening is a preventative health measure. The primary objective of BowelScreen is to reduce people's risk of developing bowel cancer in the future, by detecting and removing adenomas in the lining of the bowel that could lead to bowel cancer if left untreated. If bowel cancer is found early through bowel screening, it's easier to treat and there's a better chance of recovery.

BowelScreen: annual spending figures

The total annual spend by BowelScreen in each of the past five years is shown in the table below.

BowelScreen	Total annual spend €m
2018	8.644
2019	11.236
2020	11.545
2021	11.645
2022	12.745

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

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Murphy,
Chief Executive