



25th September 2023

Mark Ward, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

PQ39174/23

To ask the Minister for Health the counselling services offered within the adolescent addiction services; the staff vacancy within these services; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ward,

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

The table attached provides an overview of counselling services offered for adolescents for addiction in each Community Healthcare Organisation and any associated vacancies. For referral to these services, people are advised to contact GP or local HSE Addiction Services. Further details of individual services are available through the National Directory of Drugs and Alcohol Services at [Drugs.ie](https://www.drugs.ie).

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



CHO Area	Counselling Services offered within adolescent addiction services	Staff vacancy within these services
1	Community Healthcare Cavan Donegal Leitrim Monaghan Sligo deliver alcohol and substance misuse counselling services to both young people and their families/carers who are affected by the use of alcohol and substances. In addition a number of Family Addiction Support programmes are funded across the region in partnership with other funders. Monaghan and Cavan Youth Substance Support (MACYSS) provides treatment interventions for adolescents in the Cavan/Monaghan area.	3 vacancies in Donegal (HSE) 2 vacancies in Sligo/Leitrim (HSE)
2	Community Healthcare West Drugs Service have five clinical staff (four counsellors and one nurse) working in the under 18's addiction service.	0
3	<p>CHO3 Drug & Alcohol Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-2-1 counselling offered to young people aged 14-25. • CHO3 Drug & Alcohol Service and the Mid-West Regional Drug & Alcohol Forum fund a dedicated young people and families service the CSMT (Community Substance Misuse Team) which works with under 18s in relation to drug & alcohol issues in the region. <p>CSMT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The service works from the Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (ACRAFT) model. The CSMT does not employ counsellors to work with their adolescent service users. When appropriate, they refer young people to ISPCC, Jigsaw, Limerick Youth Service and Clare Care and to residential treatment in the Aislinn Centre. <p>Limerick Youth Service – Be Well Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHO3 Mental Health and Drug & Alcohol Service co-fund the LYS Be Well Team who work with young people in Limerick City & County in relation to mental health and wellbeing (including drug/alcohol use). 	1 in the CHO3 Drug & Alcohol Service
4	Counselling services via HSE Addiction Services and NGO partners are available across Cork and Kerry for under 18s with drug and alcohol problems. This service covers Cork City, Cork County and Kerry.	0
5	<p>The under 18 residential service is provided through the Aislinn programme operating in Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny. This services accepts referrals for young people from across all CHO areas. This programme has a strong emphasis on counselling interventions.</p> <p>While the HSE Substance Misuse Service in CHO 5 does not have an adolescent specific service, adolescents presenting for treatment are referred for counselling in adult services where appropriate.</p>	0
6/7	Youth Drug and Alcohol Services (YoDA) based in Kilnamanagh Tymon Primary Care Tallaght provides specialised child and adolescent service inclusive of counselling services within the HSE Addiction Services in Dublin South, Kildare West Wicklow Community Healthcare	0

	<p>and HSE EAST Community Healthcare.</p> <p>In Co Kildare adolescent addiction services are provided via the HALO service, where qualified counselling staff provide a range of treatment interventions.</p> <p>There are also other Task Force funded Tier 2 services for adolescents with addiction issues across CHO 6 and CHO 7. These include ARC Under 18 service (Dublin 12), the Clondalkin YDAP (Youth Drug & Alcohol Project), DLR Under 18 service in Dun Laoghaire, the MY Project in Mounttown and BCAT Under 18 service within BCAT in Bray. These under 18 services use a mix of youth work and counselling interventions.</p>	
8	<p>Counselling services for adolescents are offered via HSE Addiction Services for CHO8 with a counsellor employed for Louth/Meath and a counsellor for the Midlands.</p>	<p>1 vacant post currently in recruitment with an individual offered the post and awaiting issuing of contract</p>
9	<p>Counselling for adolescents for addiction is offered through the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Star Easy Street Programme, STAR Ballymun. • Balbriggan Youth Substance Use Inclusion Team (SUIT) • Swords Youth Substance Use inclusion team (SUIT) • Talbot Centre. • 29 Upper Buckingham Street, Dublin • HSE SASSY • BLDATF - Family Support Service, Steps to Cope, SHAHRP • Neighbourhood Youth Programme – NYP • Foroige 	<p>5 vacancies in SASSY in recruitment</p> <p>1 vacancy in BLDATF</p>