



29th September 2023

Neasa Hourigan, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

PQ41131/23

To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline the CHOs that currently provide rapid access stabilisation units; his plans to provide future funding for such units; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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:

Stabilisation units providing care to individuals with complex substance use problems are currently available in Cuan Dara, Cherry Orchard Hospital (CHO 7) and St Michael's Ward, Beaumont Hospital (CHO 9). It should be noted that St. Michael's Ward will take referrals on a national basis. Prior to admission, individuals require a full medical assessment.

In 2024, it is planned to provide rapid access stabilisation beds in the new Dublin Simon facility at Usher's Island. This facility will offer a range of residential medical beds to individuals who are homeless and experiencing drug or alcohol-related problems. A residential stabilisation unit is also planned for Cork and this is expected to provide services for individuals from CHOs 3, 4 and 5. Sourcing and recruitment for this service is currently underway.

Future funding for additional units will be dependent on the Estimates Process following a determination of need.

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