



HSE Tobacco Free Ireland Programme
Health & Wellbeing
Access & Integration
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Deputy Duncan Smith,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
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By email to duncan.smith@oireachtas.ie

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Ref: PQ 19491/25

To ask the Minister for Health if there is a plan to develop a new tobacco-free Ireland programme implementation plan given that the current one is due to expire in 2025; if a working group will be established to progress same; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Smith,

[Tobacco Free Ireland](#) was the first policy document to be launched under the Healthy Ireland framework in 2013. The strategy sets out over 60 recommendations for a range of departments and stakeholders which address a wide range of tobacco control issues and initiatives.

The HSE Tobacco Free Ireland Programme coordinates and leads health service-related tobacco control activity across the organisation. The Programme works to ensure that relevant actions identified for the HSE in *Tobacco Free Ireland* are implemented. Accordingly, the Programme has developed two programme plans which set out the tobacco control actions to be undertaken by the health service and through which considerable progress has been made.

- [HSE Tobacco Free Ireland Programme Implementation Plan \(2018-2021\)](#)
- [HSE Tobacco Free Ireland Programme Implementation Plan \(2022-2025\)](#)

The Department of Health is currently in the process of developing a new tobacco control strategy for Ireland (as the lifespan of *Tobacco Free Ireland* expires this year). The HSE Tobacco Free Ireland Programme (as well as the HSE National Environmental Health Service) are represented on the working group that has been convened to develop this document. It is hoped that this new government strategy will be ready before the end of 2025.

The HSE Tobacco Free Ireland Programme will subsequently consider relevant actions and proposes to develop and publish a new programme implementation plan to coincide with the publication of a new tobacco control strategy for Ireland.

I hope this information is of assistance to you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Martina Blake

National Lead, HSE Tobacco Free Ireland Programme