

HSE Tobacco Free Ireland Programme
Health & Wellbeing
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Deputy Pádraig Rice, Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

By email to padraig.rice@oireachtas.ie

4<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Ref: PQ 25936/25

To ask the Minister for Health the level of funding provided for tobacco cessation services from 2014 to 2024, and to date in 2025, by year, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Rice,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to your above referenced Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health. The question concerned was referred to HSE Health and Wellbeing for review and direct response as the work of the Tobacco Free Ireland Programme (TFIP) is part of that function.

Tobacco cessation measures include smoking cessation medications provided to clients accessing stop smoking services (either via the Primary Care Reimbursement Scheme or the new HSE free stop smoking medicines scheme), frontline HSE intensive smoking cessation services (staff costs, IT patient management system costs), the National Quitline and mass media (QUIT) campaign.

The QUIT Campaign aims to increase the demand for QUIT support services and National Quitline and medication costs subsequently vary and are demand led.

Year	<u>Item</u>	<u>€ Cost</u>
2014	NRT/Smoking Cessation Medications (PCRS)	8,732,617
	Social Marketing (QUIT Campaign)	1,500,000
	National Quitline (provided by Irish Cancer Society)	158,836
	Smoking Cessation Staff Costs	1,000,252
		11,391,705
2015	NRT/Smoking Cessation Medications (PCRS)	8,475,125
	Social Marketing (QUIT Campaign)	1,500,000
	National Quitline (new provider & new service options)	284,206

	Smoking Cessation Staff Costs	1,000,252
		11,259,583
2016	NRT/Smoking Cessation Medications (PCRS)	8,718,785
	Social Marketing (QUIT Campaign)	1,650,000
	National Quitline	262,500
	Smoking Cessation Staff Costs	1,000,252
		11,631,537
2017	NRT/Smoking Cessation Medications (PCRS)	8,504,801
	Social Marketing (QUIT Campaign)	1,668,000
	National Quitline	259,724
	Smoking Cessation Staff Costs	1,371,129
		11,803,654
2018	NRT/Smoking Cessation Medications (PCRS)	8,640,775
	Social Marketing (QUIT Campaign)	1,500,000
	National Quitline	231,746
	Smoking Cessation Staff Costs	1,485,000
	Quitmanager (IT Capital Development Cost)	73,918
	Quitmanager (Patient Management System Licensing)	24,182
	<u> </u>	11,955,621
2019	NRT/Smoking Cessation Medications (PCRS)	9,492,877
	Social Marketing (QUIT Campaign)	1,800,000
	National Quitline	258,453
	Smoking Cessation Staff Costs	1,425,530
	Quitmanager Patient Management System	24,182
		13,001,042
2020	NRT/Smoking Cessation Medications (PCRS)	9,365,383
	Social Marketing (QUIT Campaign)	1,688,719
	National Quitline	267,588
	Smoking Cessation Staff Costs	1,425,530
	Quitmanager Patient Management System	24,182
	Sláintecare Integration Fund (2 x Maternity Stop Smoking Services)	139,194
		12,910,596
2021	NRT/Smoking Cessation Medications (PCRS)	9,213,130
	Social Marketing (QUIT Campaign)	1,660,000
	National Quitline	289,813
	Smoking Cessation Staff Costs	1,784,635
	Quitmanager Patient Management System	24,182
	We Can Quit Programme Delivery <sup>1</sup>	244,620
		13,216,380
2022	NRT/Smoking Cessation Medications (PCRS)	9,134,767
	NRT/Smoking Cessation Medications via Stop Smoking Services	276,681
	Social Marketing (QUIT Campaign)	2,153,992
	National Quitline	377,388

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 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  The We Can Quit Programme is a peer led, 12-week stop smoking group support programme for disadvantaged communities.

	Smoking Cessation Staff Costs	3,179,160 <sup>2</sup>
	Quitmanager Patient Management System	33,629
	We Can Quit Programme Delivery	599,604
		15,755,221
2023	Smoking Cessation Medications (PCRS)	10,043,199
	NRT/Stop Smoking Medications via Stop Smoking Services	1,240,539
	Social Marketing (QUIT Campaign)	1,721,315
	National Quitline	429,152
	Smoking Cessation Staff Costs	4,722,818
	Quitmanager Patient Management System	37,257
	We Can Quit Programme Delivery	558,252
		18,752,532
2024	Smoking Cessation Medications (PCRS)	11,039,128
	NRT/Stop Smoking Medications via Stop Smoking Services	2,378,793
	Social Marketing (QUIT Campaign)	1,600,000
	National Quitline	449,275
	Smoking Cessation Staff Costs	4,887,653
	Quitmanager Patient Management System	126,870 <sup>3</sup>
	We Can Quit Programme Delivery	475,548
	-	20,957,267
2025 <sup>4</sup>	Smoking Cessation Medications (PCRS)	Not yet available
	NRT/Stop Smoking Medications via Stop Smoking Services	920,000
	Social Marketing (QUIT Campaign)	121,000
	National Quitline	213,101
	Smoking Cessation Staff Costs	2,033,263
	Quitmanager Patient Management System	Not yet available
	We Can Quit Programme Delivery	197,000
		3,484,364

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

<sup>2</sup> The development of the Sláintecare Healthy Communities and Enhanced Community Care Chronic Disease Programmes saw investment in new stop smoking services in disadvantaged areas where smoking prevalence continues to be high.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Investment in 2024 for improved reporting and integration with other IT systems (e.g. GP systems).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Spend to end of May 2025 (where available). Data from PCRS not yet available. NRT via Stop Smoking Services and National Quitline billing are for Jan – April.