

26th July, 2022

Deputy Thomas Gould, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

Re PQ No. 39254/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons availing of a community detox programme in each of the past five years in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Gould,

I refer to your above Parliamentary Questions which had been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

An analysis of cases treated for problem drug or alcohol use who received a community detox between 2017 and 2021 was conducted within the [National Drugs Treatment Reporting System](#) (NDTRS). The figures reflect assessments and entries into treatment (new cases and previously treated cases returning to treatment) and do not include the number of cases continuing in treatment from preceding years. Please note that the NDTRS data is case based, which means that there is a possibility that individuals appear more than once in the database, for example where a person receives treatment at more than one centre or at the same centre more than once per year.

Over the period, a total of 636 cases treated for problem drug or alcohol use received a community detox.

Table 1: Number of cases treated for drugs or alcohol who received a community detox, by year, NDTRS 2017 to 2021

| | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020* | 2021 | Total |
|--|------|------|------|-------|------|-------|
| Number of cases who received a community detox | 156 | 124 | 92 | 151 | 113 | 636 |

*NDTRS data for 2020 should be interpreted in the context of COVID-19.

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

Yours sincerely,



Joseph Doyle
National Lead, Social Inclusion