

8th April 2025

Deputy Erin McGreehan, TD
Dáil Eireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: 14140/25

To ask the Minister for Health to outline the drug rehabilitation and addiction services available in Louth, including the number of centres in the country, a detailed list of services provided, the number of patients served, and the current waiting lists; and to provide a breakdown of waiting lists per CHO area, in each of the years 2020 to 2024, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy McGreehan,

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:

An analysis of the data provided in treatment services within the National Drugs Treatment Reporting System (NDTRS) (see information about the [NDTRS](#)) includes all cases treated for problem use of drugs as a main problem in 2023 (the most recent year available). The analysis includes cases treated for problem drug use (as a main problem) in treatment services in Ireland in 2023. Cases treated in general practitioners (GP) and prison services have been excluded from this analysis.

There were 12,266 cases treated for problem drug use nationally in 2023. Of these cases;

- 253 cases residing in Louth (in the 30 days prior to treatment) were treated in services based in Louth.
- 326 cases residing in Louth (in the 30 days prior to treatment) were treated in any service (regardless of location of service but also including Louth).
 - o 73 cases who resided in Louth were treated outside Louth.
- 329 cases were treated by service providers based in Louth (regardless of where case resided but does include the 253 cases residing in Louth).

Services providing treatment:

The total number of services in 2023 recording cases for drug addiction treatment was 434. Of these 7 were located in Louth (Table 1)

Table 1: Drug treatment services in Louth returning drug treatment data to the NDTRS in 2023

Name of service
Turas Counselling Service & Aftercare Programme
The Red Door Project
Substance Use Service for Teens (SUST)
North Louth Addiction Counselling
South Louth Addiction Counselling
Louth Meath Addiction Services – Addiction Homeless Team (Louth)
Louth Meath Addiction Services – Outreach & Harm Reduction Team (Louth)

In 2024, there were 15 publicly funded drug addiction treatment services as listed on https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/services_map

Service Types:

Table 2 below sets out the cases treated for drug addiction reported to the NDTRS by Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO) for 2023.

Table 2, Cases treated for drug addiction by Community Healthcare Organisation (CHO) and service type, 2023.

CHO of service	Outpatient	Inpatient	Low threshold	Total
CHO Area 1 – Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim, Cavan and Monaghan	320	37	21	378
CHO Area 2 – Galway, Roscommon and Mayo	261	79	0	340
CHO Area 3 – Limerick, Clare and North Tipperary	602	274	31	907
CHO Area 4 – Kerry and Cork	762	197	8	967
CHO Area 5 – South Tipperary, Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford and Wexford	893	274	339	1506
CHO Area 6 – Wicklow and Dublin South East	462	86	7	555
CHO Area 7 – Kildare, West Wicklow, Dublin West, Dublin South City, and Dublin South West	2,707	224	117	3,048
CHO Area 8 – Laois, Offaly, Longford, Westmeath, Louth and Meath	633	60	20	713
CHO Area 9 – Dublin North, Dublin North Central and Dublin North West	2,731	566	555	3,852
Total	9,371	1,797	1,098	12,266

It is not possible to provide a full breakdown of addiction service waiting lists per HSE Region, as outside of residential and Opioid Agonist Treatment, they are not routinely recorded. For the Deputy's information, Key performance indicators within the HSE's Service Plan measure timelines between referral, assessment and treatment where required.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Doyle', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joseph Doyle
National Lead, Social Inclusion