

2nd December 2025
Paul Murphy, TD
Dáil Éireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

PQ 63728/25

To ask the Minister for Health if she will fund family liaison officers for mental health and addiction services; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to your above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for a response.

We are not aware of any specific family liaison officer roles for Mental Health and Addiction Services.

However, for the Deputy's information, the HSE's Addiction Services currently provide support for family members in relation to drug and alcohol related issues. Funding of €0.56 million has been provided on a recurring basis via recent National Service Plans for family support programmes.

In 2023, €0.540 million was allocated on a recurring basis under the National Hidden Harm Project to three large areas for the delivery of evidence-based parenting and family support programmes, with a further €0.135 million allocated on a recurring basis in one area of need for intensive family support programmes.

Additionally, in 2023, €242,000 was allocated to fund family support measures under the national drugs strategy, Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery, including:

- Develop and broaden the range of supports for family members affected by addiction, with a particular focus on virtual accessibility and supports through the RISE Foundation
- Continue the coordination of training and support available for practitioners to deliver the 5-Step Method Intervention through C&F Training

A series of 'Parents Matter' and 'Families Matter' webinars were hosted by the HSE National Social Inclusion Office in 2023, 2024 and 2025 to support parents and carers and provide useful information around drugs and alcohol.

Further family support programmes are available through local HSE Addiction services and partner organisations. The Department of Health and the HRB have produced an interactive map for drug and alcohol services.

This includes a facility to identify family support services nationally and can be accessed via this link.

https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/services_map

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

Yours sincerely,



Prof Eamon Kennan
National Clinical Lead for HSE Addiction Services