



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

National Social Inclusion Office
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30th November 2015

Deputy Paul Murphy
Dáil Éireann
Kildare Street
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PQ 39048/15

* To ask the Minister for Health the programmes and supports available for persons suffering from alcohol addiction; if he will provide in tabular form the amounts spent on providing these programmes each year since 2008; and if he will make a statement on the matter..

Dear Deputy Murphy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

People who present for alcohol addiction treatment are offered a range of interventions namely Initial Assessment, Comprehensive Assessment, Minnesota Programme, Brief Intervention, Individual Counselling, self-help, peer-support etc. or a combination of these. The delivery of these services is based on the Four Tier Model of treatment intervention and services are designed to respond to the individual's specific identified needs.

Interagency working between the HSE, Drug Task Forces and multiple other community, statutory and voluntary agencies form the basis of this delivery as the target is to provide services where possible in a community environment. Counselling and rehabilitation services provide care to those presenting with an addiction through one to one counselling and onward referral to other statutory and voluntary groups where appropriate. The HSE also provides funding to a number of voluntary service providers who treat drug and alcohol addictions.

The financial system within the HSE is designed to support the delivery of integrated services at local level and does not currently support reporting by care group other than at a national level. Therefore it is not possible to identify all of the elements of the funding specifically providing alcohol interventions.

Further, in some parts of the country alcohol services are provided within social inclusion as part of drug and alcohol (addiction) services and in others they are distinct and provided under Mental Health with elements of Alcohol Harm Prevention within Health Promotion and Improvement. It should be noted that in addition to these services, other Areas of the HSE provide services to clients with addiction problems including Acute Hospital Services and Emergency Departments, Primary Care Services and General Practitioners providing front line services for these clients.

Notwithstanding the above a recent exercise has been carried out within the HSE Addiction Services in Social Inclusion/ Primary Care. More specific detail in respect of the subset of that providing alcohol services is not available. The following table sets out the expenditure attributed to Addiction Services within Social Inclusion excluding PCRS reimbursements in respect of Methadone Treatment:

Table 1: Expenditure attributed to Addiction Services within Social Inclusion

Year	Expenditure ¹
2007	€87,859,668.78
2008	€88,669,628.00
2009	€88,167,607.00
2010	€81,907,604.00
2011	€75,056,963.00
2012	€72,346,848.26
2013	€71,123,896.06
2014 ²	€87,725,991.34
2015 (allocation)	€88,905,876.96

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Joseph Doyle,
National Planning Specialist

¹ These figures include addiction related expenditure for the North West (Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim)

² Funding in the sum of €21.57ml, was transferred to the HSE Vote in respect of Task Force Projects that were funded by the Department of Health's Drugs Programme Unit for 2014.