25th July, 2017

Deputy Ruth Coppinger
Dáil Éireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

PQ 34569/17
* To ask the Minister for Health the estimated annual cost of ensuring universal free access to drug rehabilitation and treatment programmes.

Dear Deputy Coppinger,

The Health Service Executive has 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:

The following table outlines the total expenditure attributed to HSE Addiction Services, Primary Care Reimbursement Service (re Methadone), HSE Section 39 funding, and Drug and Alcohol Task Force Section 39 funding nationally for the past two years. It is expected that the allocation for 2017 will be in the region of €117m:

Table: Expenditure attributed to Addiction Services within Social Inclusion

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<th>2015</th>
<th>2016 (allocation)</th>
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<td>€113.587m</td>
<td>€114m</td>
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In addition, other areas of the HSE provide services to clients with addiction problems including Health Promotion, Mental Health, Acute Hospitals Services and Emergency Departments & Primary Care as well as other department/organisations that have allocations that are attributable to drugs programmes and the objectives of the National Drug Strategy.

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

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Doyle
National Planning Specialist