



Ceann Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail
Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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11/04/2024

Deputy Sean Sherlock
Dáil Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 52601/23

To ask the Minister of Health if funding will be allocated to a Community Group Willow Community Counselling Services Athy Co Kildare; if so, the amount of funding and the date it will be allocated and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Sherlock,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for a response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Health Service Executive confirms that HSE Addiction Services supports the provision of an integrated range of preventative, therapeutic, and rehabilitation services to meet the diverse health and social care needs of our service users in an accountable, accessible, and equitable manner. Willow Counselling receives annual funding of €40,000 from HSE Addictions Services. Willow Counselling has confirmed to the HSE that approximately 50% of their work relates to addiction as they also provide generic counselling.

Willow Counselling has been advised to investigate alternative sources of funding along with the existing funding from HSE Addiction Services. There was an additional once of funding of €7,500 euros provided in 2022 and 2023. This was provided to support the project.

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

Yours sincerely,

Brian Kearney
Head of Primary Care
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare