



23rd July 2024

Thomas Gould, TD
Dáil Eireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2.

PQ 30454/24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of beds by CHO for women seeking treatment from addiction, in tabular form.

Dear Deputy Gould,

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:

Treatment via residential treatment services is not necessarily appropriate for all; services users are offered the least intensive intervention as appropriate to their present need when initially presenting for treatment. Treatment services for substance use are structured within a 4 Tier Model where the majority of cases requiring intervention or treatment are managed within Tier 2 or Tier 3 services within the community.

The HSE has traditionally funded a proportion of Tier 4 residential addiction services on a 'per bed allocation,' and while some residential services are funded cross service, there is progression towards the provision of funding on a 'per treatment basis,' where each treatment episode is paid for separately. The majority of residential services are nationally available i.e. an individual does not have to live in a particular area to avail of that service.

The HSE National Social Inclusion Office with the support of CHO 4, has set up a data monitoring system for referrals to Tier 4 residential addiction services. This data monitoring system is in its initial stages; preliminary data from January 2024 to date outlines that 115 women completed or are currently expected to complete treatment. In that same time frame nine adolescent females availed of residential treatment. There will be a notable increase in figures when the system becomes fully operational.

Yours sincerely,

Prof Eamon Keenan
National Clinical Lead-Addiction Services
HSE National Social Inclusion Office

