

Factsheet Budget 2023 Measures for National Drugs Strategy & Inclusion Health



Total additional funding of €10.5m in 2023:

- €4m to expand community and residential addiction services;
- €3m to improve access to healthcare services for Travellers, people who are homeless and refugees;
- €3.5m to maintain existing level of service for community & voluntary organisations providing drug & alcohol and inclusion health services.

In Budget 2023, Minister Frank Feighan secured an additional €7m for new developments. The funding will be used to expand HSE healthcare services and to support community & voluntary organisations to improve access to health and social care services. The main funding allocations are set out below.



€900,000 to ensure sustainability and to increase capacity of residential treatment services



€850,000 to expand integrated care pathways for high-risk drug and alcohol users, including gender-specific services



€1m to strengthen monitoring of emerging drug trends & to expand community-based services as part of the community services enhancement fund.



€750,000 to mitigate the impact of drugs & alcohol on children, families & communities



€1m to expand Traveller health units and other Traveller-specific services, under the forthcoming Traveller health action plan (a further €300,000 is provided for Traveller mental health by Minister Butler)



€1.3m to provide wrap around health supports for long-term homeless under Housing First, in line with the Housing for All plan.



€700,000 to increase access to healthcare services for refugees, in line with the HSE Intercultural Health Strategy.

Key outputs from the new funding

- increase in numbers accessing drug and alcohol services across all regions
- better supports for children and families affected by parental drug and alcohol use
- more women and men in recovery from addiction
- reduction in drug-related harms, overdoses and drug-related deaths
- additional 269 Housing First tenancies receiving intensive health supports
- better treatment for chronic physical health conditions amongst Travellers
- more refugees accessing culturally appropriate healthcare services

Summary of New Measures and Existing Level of Service Funding for 2023

Measure	Allocation €m
Enhance child and family services for children impacted by drug	0.5
and alcohol use	
Increase provision of community-based drug and alcohol services	0.5
to address new and emerging patterns of drug use	
Meet increased costs of providing existing & new residential	0.9
treatment episodes	
Develop new 10-bedroom rehabilitation facility for women in	0.285
Meath	
Develop new aftercare service for women in Wicklow	0.216
Establish integrated alcohol service in Mayo	0.35
Expand naloxone programme and respond to emerging drug	0.25
trends	
Roll-out the inter-agency Drive initiative (drug-related intimidation	0.25
and violence engagement)	
Expand drug monitoring and analysis to inform policy responses	0.25
Introduce a pilot treatment programme for gambling addiction	0.5
Resource the implementation of the Traveller health action plan	1
Provide health supports for additional 269 Housing First tenancies	1.3
Increase access to healthcare services for refugees	0.7
Maintain existing level of service for community & voluntary	3.5
organisations providing drug & alcohol and inclusion health	
services	
Total	10.5



Details of the new measures and the associated outputs will be set out in the HSE national service plan for 2023