

6th August 2019

Deputy Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ Number: 34100/19

“To ask the Minister for Health the waiting lists to be seen by mental health services including CAMHS at the Carrigaline primary care centre by waiting times of 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months, respectively.”

PQ Number: 34114/19

“To ask the Minister for Health the waiting lists to be seen by mental health services including CAMHS at the Blackrock primary care centre by waiting times of 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months, respectively.”

PQ Number: 34128/19

“To ask the Minister for Health the waiting lists to be seen by mental health services including CAMHS in the Ballyphehane Togher area by waiting times of 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months, respectively.”

PQ Number: 34392/19

“To ask the Minister for Health the waiting list for CAMHS in South and North Lee by 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months.”

PQ Number: 34142/19

“To ask the Minister for Health the waiting lists to be seen by mental health services including CAMHS in the Bishopstown Wilton area by waiting times of 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months, respectively.”

PQ Number: 34156/19

“To ask the Minister for Health the waiting lists to be seen by mental health services including CAMHS in the Douglas area by waiting times of 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months, respectively.”

Dear Deputy Ó Laoghaire,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above extensive list of Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Firstly, I wish to outline that the Key Performance Indicator (KPI) data collected within our Mental Health Service is not collected by Primary Care Centre but is collected by sector based team. With

this in mind, you might note that the information you have requested is not available in the format you requested, however I have provided the wait list data appropriate to these sector based teams.

Mental Health Services in Cork Kerry Community Healthcare aim to promote and protect the mental health of the population and to provide effective services to those who need them. Our services have a strong focus on recovery and co-production and have consistently sought to develop and enhance community based services and reduce, where appropriate, those treated in more acute services.

Services for adults are provided through 19 Adult Community Mental Health Teams (CHMTs), 5 Psychiatry of Later Life teams (POLL), 3 Home Based Treatment Teams, 1 Specialist Rehabilitation Team, 1 Specialist Homeless Team, and 1 Mental Health and Intellectual Disability (MHID) Team. In addition, dedicated Liaison Teams are based in Cork University Hospital and the Mercy University Hospital, with plans underway to develop a Liaison service in University Hospital Kerry.

In June 2019 a total of 428 referrals were accepted by General Adult Mental Health Community Based Teams in Cork Kerry Community Healthcare. Of this, 416 (97%) were offered a first appointment within 3 months. A total of 60 referrals were accepted by the Psychiatry of Later Life Teams in Cork Kerry Community Healthcare, of this, 53 (88%) were offered a first appointment within 3 months.

Services for children are provided by ten community based Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Teams (CAMHS) across Cork and Kerry supported by Eist Linn, CAMHS inpatient unit, which serves the South East as well as Cork and Kerry. Eight of these community based teams are based in Cork.

All teams are multi-disciplinary with Medical, Nursing, Social Work, Occupational Therapy, Psychology, Speech and Language Therapy and Administration Staff. Teams are led by Consultants Psychiatrists.

All referrals received to Mental Health Services are triaged in a timely manner and the referral is either accepted or rejected at that point. Referrals accepted are wait listed in order of clinical priority and wait lists vary across each sector based community team. Urgent referrals to all teams are prioritised.

There are currently 646 young people on the waiting list to be seen by CAMHS services Cork Kerry Community Healthcare. Despite a backdrop of a 10% increased referral rate to the teams, so far in 2019 when compared to 2015, service improvement initiatives to date have resulted in a 17% reduction in total waiting list numbers from 780 in January 2019 to 646 as at June 2019. Please find as follows, wait list times for the catchment areas appropriate to your query:

	Total	0-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	> 12 months
North Lee East	39	7	8	5	7	12
North Lee West	2	2	0	0	0	0
South Lee 1 (Team A)	67	32	12	9	5	9
South Lee 2 (Team B)	19	15	4	0	0	0
South Lee / West Cork	13	8	3	1	1	0
South Lee 3 (Team C)	92	14	26	27	6	19

As you can see, a total of 232 young people are awaiting CAMHS in the areas pertaining to your query, with 40 young people waiting > 12 months. In relation to particular areas pertaining to your query;

- CAMHS South Lee 3 is based at Carrigaline Primary Care Centre. The Bishopstown / Wilton area falls under the catchment area of this team. Work to date with this team has resulted in a significant reduction in waiting list numbers from 210 in October 2017 to 92 as at June 2019. Young people waiting over 12 months to be seen by this team have also reduced by 73% from 70 In October 2017 to 19 as per June 2019 data.
- CAMHS South Lee 1 is based at Blackrock Primary Care Centre. The Douglas area falls under the catchment area of this team. Work to date with this team has resulted in a significant reduction in waiting list numbers by 36% from 104 in October 2017 to 67 as at June 2019. Young people waiting over 12 months to be seen by this team have also reduced by 80% from 46 In October 2017 to 9 as per June 2019 data.
- CAMHS South Lee 2 is based at City General Hospital. The Ballyphehane area falls under the catchment area of this team. Work to date with this team has resulted in a significant reduction in waiting list numbers by 77% from 82 in October 2017 to 19 as at June 2019. Young people waiting over 12 months to be seen by this team have also reduced by 100% from 37 In October 2017 to 0 as per June 2019 data.

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare continues to take a proactive approach with a focus on reducing CAMHS waiting times and identifying and establishing a plan to manage wait lists in each of our 10 sector based CAMHS teams across Cork and Kerry. We are committed to continuing our efforts to ensure that better access to a safe and effective service is delivered.

I trust this clarifies the query raised.

Kind regards,



Ms Sinead Glennon
Head of Mental Health Services
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare