



**Cúram Sláinte  
Pobail Thoir**  
ag freastal ar Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Thoir Theas, Baile Átha Cliath  
Theas agus Cill Mhantáin

**Community  
Healthcare East**  
serving Dublin South East,  
Dublin South and Wicklow

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse Cúram Príomhúil  
Cúram Sláinte Pobail Thoir,  
Bloc B, Lárionad Cathrach,  
An tSráid Mhór, Bré,  
Co. Chill Mhantáin, A98 X329.  
T: 01 2744215 R: louise.lacey@hse.ie

2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019

Deputy Stephen Donnelly, TD  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

Head of Service Primary Care  
HSE Community Healthcare East,  
Block B, Civic Centre,  
Main Street, Bray,  
Co. Wicklow, A98 X329

T: 01 2744215 Email: louise.lacey@hse.ie

**Re: PQ Ref 27308/19**

\* \*To ask the Minister for Health the number of gay and bisexual men being turned away each week from a service (GMHS) due to a lack of capacity; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

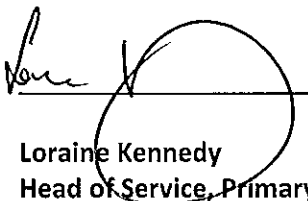
The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health and Children for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Gay Men's Health Service (GMHS) is a national service and is centrally involved in strategies and actions to reduce the incidence of HIV and STIs in the men who have sex with men (MSM) community. The GMHS has the capacity to see approximately 1,000 clients per month. I have been informed that to date 5,717 men have presented to these clinics (of which there are 4 per week) and 716 did not receive a service. Any client who presents at a clinic but cannot be seen is made aware of alternative clinic times and also other services available.

Demand for the GMHS is increasing year on year. All efforts are made by staff to optimise current resources.

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

Yours sincerely,



Loraine Kennedy  
Head of Service, Primary Care