



Cúram Sláinte  
Phobail, Iarthar  
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,  
Maigheo agus Ros Comáin

Community  
Healthcare West  
serving Galway, Mayo  
and Roscommon

Ceannasaí na Seirbhísí Meabhairshláinte

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Caisleán an Bharraigh, Co. Mhaigh Eo, F23 HP58.

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28<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Mr. Éamon O'Cuív T.D.  
Kirwin House  
Flood Street  
Galway

**PQ ref 20572/19**

To ask the Minister for Health the reason there are no CAMHS Clinics held in Clifden, West Connemara, County Galway; the reason all persons that wish to avail of this service from the area must make a round trip of 200km for an appointment; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy O'Cuív,

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 for response.

I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position;

National Mental Health Policy, Vision for Change, provides for a CAMHS Community Team servicing a population of 50,000. Clifden is covered by the Galway West CAMHS Team which covers all of Connemara and West Galway City. The CAMHS model operated in Community Healthcare West is based on a Multi Disciplinary Team (MDT) approach, a proven effective model targeting the most appropriate interventions at the earliest time. This model of care necessarily requires MDT complement to be present for clinics. The Team is based in West Galway City, the point of best access for the majority of the population being served, i.e. City suburbs and conjunction of the two main roads serving Connemara North and South. As such it is not efficient within the resources allocated, to provide satellite MDT inclusive outpatient clinics without compromising the overall service to the area's population.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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**Charlie Meehan**  
**Head of Mental Health Services**  
**Community Healthcare West**



Seirbhís Sláinte  
Níos Fearr  
á Forbairt

Building a  
Better Health  
Service