



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

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24<sup>th</sup> November 2020,  
Deputy Alan Kelly,  
Dail Eireann,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 34674/20**

**To ask the Minister for Health the status of teen counselling services cancelled from March to August 2020 due to the restrictions in place, and the impact on young persons that were waiting on counselling during that period; his plans to make sure this does not happen again; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Kelly,

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.

HSE specialist mental health services provide a wide range of talking therapies in CAMHS (eg cognitive behavioural therapy, family therapy etc). The HSE also provides talk therapies at primary care level through directly employed staff e.g. psychologists in primary care. In addition to directly employed staff the HSE funds partner organisations to provide talk therapies eg Jigsaw services.

No services ceased during the COVID19 pandemic. Many services made use of hybrid models which included face to face and telehealth options. In addition the HSE developed additional telehealth services during this period through a number of providers e.g. turn2me etc

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

Yours Sincerely

Dr Sinead Reynolds  
General Manager Mental Health Services