

PQ Rep IEHG
Email: pqrep@iehg.ie

17th November 2020

Deputy Róisín Shortall T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2
E: roisin.shortall@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 37094/20 – National Gender Service waiting times

“To ask the Minister for Health if steps can be taken to address the fact that in just one year the National Gender Service waiting list has gone from 15 months to more than 3 years; if immediate action will be taken to address the matter; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Shortall,


I refer to the above Parliamentary Question seeking an update on waiting lists for the National Gender Service, which has been referred to the Ireland East Hospital Group for direct response.

I have had this matter examined and am advised that the waiting list for the National Gender Service is now over two years given an ongoing increase in referrals received over the last number of years. Staff complement increased in 2019 to address this, and the service recently initiated recruitment for new members of staff.

If recruitment is successful, this will help to reduce the waiting list. It is recognised that given the ongoing increase in referrals, and the complexity of care needs, additional staff will be needed in the future. A business case for additional staff has been drafted with a plan to submit in the upcoming estimates process.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely



Paul Gallagher
Chief Director of Nursing and Midwifery