



29th April 2021

☎: 01 8131889 📧: mh.dncc@hse.ie

Deputy Aodhán Ó'Ríordáin
Dáil Éireann
Kildare Street
Dublin

Head of Service Mental Health,
HSE Community Healthcare Organisation
Dublin North City & County,
Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road,
Swords, Co. Dublin, K67 D8H0.

PQ Ref: 19553/21 -To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on waiting lists for CAMHS; the average waiting time in CHO9 in each of the years 2017 to 2020, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ó'Ríordáin,

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

The extenuating challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic has placed unprecedented levels of demand on all CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) Community services and the teams are currently making all efforts to progress through their waiting lists.

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic taking hold, CAMHS Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) Service was making significant headway in reducing its waiting lists across the service.

By February 2020, the vast majority of CAMHS DNCC teams had waiting lists under six months with clear evidence that most teams were going to steadily reduce further in the following months.

CAMHS DNCC has been designated as essential service throughout the pandemic. The service has remained "open for business" and has prioritised its service delivery model with as much priority focus on Face to Face appointments as possible.

The service has balanced a strong ethos of facilitating as many attended appointments as possible while ensuring the safety of staff and the public.

The service has been adaptable in utilising a blend of digitally assisted and phone appointments to assist continuity of service delivery where appropriate also and a funding proposal has been submitted under the waiting list funding initiative to assist reducing waiting time.


The waiting times for CAMHS in CHO DNCC for the years 2017-2021 are as follows:

Year	Total Number
2017	135
2018	193
2019	188
2020	290
2021	313

The CAMHS Service has submitted a waiting list initiative funding proposal for Senior Management consideration which sets out a defined and systematic eradication of any service users waiting over a year by September 2021.

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

Yours sincerely,



Angela Walsh
Head of Service Mental Health
CHO Dublin North City & County