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2nd March 2021 Deputy Alan Dillon Dail Eireann, Dublin 2.

PQ 8099/21

To ask the Minister for Health if progress has been achieved in appointing a national lead for youth mental health; if there has been progress with appointing leads for youth mental health in each community health organisation; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Dillon,

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.

Recommendation 8.3 states that mental health leads should be established within the HSE to coordinate provision of services. The HSE met with stakeholders including some members of the Task Force committee in 2018 and agreed that prior to driving a recruitment process, more clarity around the job specification would be required. It was agreed that once pathfinder is in place, work could focus on the role and detailed job specification required.

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

Yours sincerely,

Thomas O'Brien General Manager Mental Health Services