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25th March 2021 Deputy Neasa Hourigan, Dail Eireann, Dublin 2.

PQ Number: 12842/21

To ask the Minister for Health his plans to develop national gender clinics and multidisciplinary teams for transgender children and adults; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Neasa Hourigan

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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.

Currently the HSE are working on the further development of multidisciplinary gender care delivery in Ireland (including gender clinics) both in services for Children & Adolescents and for Adults. The National Gender Service has submitted business cases for additional staff, with approval already provided for a number of posts (including Clinical and Admin posts) to begin addressing the waiting list and allow the NGS to offer a more diverse range of supports and interventions.

The HSE are also working on the establishment of a Child & Adolescent service in Ireland including the recruitment of a Consultant Psychiatrist with a special interest in Gender Identity as part of the model of care. CHI at Crumlin have advertised for a replacement Consultant Paediatric Endocrinologist who will be part of the Team and interviews are to be conducted this month.

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

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