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April 28th 2021, Deputy Colm Burke, Dail Eireann, Dublin 2.

PQ Number: 14099/21

To ask the Minister for Health the additional specialised staff that have been recruited in this areaPQincluding endocrinologists, social workers, speech and language therapists, senior psychologists,Question:clinical nurse specialists and administrative support officers, in line with action 19.1 of the
National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Colm Burke

Dear Deputy Burke,

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.

Funding was granted to both adult (IEHG) and paediatrics to CHI at Crumlin to deliver the transgender service from Acute Operations and Mental Health. A total of 9 WTE posts were granted, outlined below.

CHI at Crumlin	WTE
Consultant Paediatric Endocrinologist	1
Senior Psychologist	1
Clinical Nurse Specialist	1
Grade IV	0.5
	3.5
IEHG – St Colmcilles	
Consultant Endocrinologist	1
Social Worker	1
Speech and Language Therapist	1
Senior Psychologist	1
Grade IV	0.5
	4.5
Community and CHI – CHO 6	
Consultant Adult Psychiatrist	1
Total Posts	9

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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 is working on the establishment of this team service in Ireland to include the recruitment of a Consultant Psychiatrist with a special interest in Gender Identity as part of the model of care. CHI at Crumlin has recently interviewed and appointed a Paediatric Endocrinologist. Part of their role will be to work with the CAMHS/GID service and in particular with the Consultant Child Psychiatrist with an interest in Gender Identity, once the Child Psychiatry appointment has been made. The Paediatric Endocrinologist will be taking up the post later this year. It is possible that a period of further specific training in Gender Identity may be requested by the Paediatric Endocrinology appointee.

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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