

Oifig an Ceannaire Seirbhíse Seirbhísí Meabhairshláinte an Mheán Iarthair Cúram Sláinte Phobail FSS an Mheán Iarthair Ospidéal Naomh Iosaef Sráid Mulgrave Luimneach V94 C8DV Teil: 061 461435/461313 Office of Head of Service HSE Mid West Community Healthcare Mid-West Mental Health Services St. Joseph's Hospital Mulgrave Street Limerick V94 C8DV Tel: 061 461435/461313

Mr. Martin Browne, TD Clonmel Co Tipperary

01st April 2021

Re: PQ 15099/21 – "To ask the Minister for Health his views on the way children that are receiving CAMHS services in north County Tipperary but are unable to access occupational therapy services due to a lack of a physical room; his views on whether such a situation is acceptable; the waiting times for same in 2019, 2020, and to date in 2021, in tabular form; his views on the lack of a physical room for occupational therapy services at CAMHS in Nenagh, County Tipperary; and if he will make a statement on the matter.."

Dear Deputy Browne,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question and wish to advise of the following.

CAMHS in North Tipperary is primarily located in Tyone Health Centre, Nenagh. In this building the Occupational Therapist currently does not have access to a large enough clinic room to facilitate developmental assessments and interventions. Space for this type of assessment is currently carried out in a Primary Care centre. Unfortunately, this arrangement has been impacted by COVID surge measures within the HSE. At no point has a referral to CAMHS Occupational Therapy for any child been declined upon the basis of access to space.

| Waiting Time | Numbers waiting as of 31/12/19 | Numbers waiting as of 31/12/20 | Numbers waiting as of 29/03/21 |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 3 to 6 months | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 6 to 12 months | 8 | 0 | 3 |
| 12 months or more | 4 | 9 | 10 |

CHO 3 Mental Health Service Management has been making considerable efforts to secure additional suitable accommodation for the North Tipperary CAMHS Team. We are engaging

with our Primary Care colleagues to ensure access to the original space. In the meantime priority 1 assessments can be completed at a site in Limerick.

I trust this clarifies the position.

Yours sincerely,

Niamh Wallace Head of Service,

Mid West Mental Health Services