

16th November 2021

Ms. Louise O'Reilly TD, Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2. Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse Meabhairshláinte,

Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Tuaisceart Chathair & Tuaisceart Chontae Bhaile Átha Cliath, Campas Gnó Shoird, Bóthar Chaile Anraí, Sord, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath, K67 D8H0.

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Email: Louise.OReilly@oireachtas.ie

PQ Ref: 52459/21 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of adults in North County Dublin waiting for a mental health appointment at 1st October 2021 or the latest available date; the length of time they have been waiting; and if he will make a statement on the matter - Louise O'Reilly TD

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

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

I wish to advise that community mental health services are delivered via Community Mental Health Teams who are led by a Consultant Psychiatrist and comprise of representatives from the Nursing, Social Work, Psychology, and Occupational Therapy disciplines. There are seven community mental health teams who provide services within North Dublin based out of Coolock, Balbriggan, Darndale, Kilbarrack East and West, Killester and Swords. Outpatient referrals to these teams come from a number of sources including General Practitioners, Accident and Emergency Departments and from other clinicians including Consultants from hospitals, as well as transfers from other community mental health teams.

All referrals received are considered and assessed by the community mental health teams. Service users are offered an appointment based on the prioritisation of their overall individual needs and the first available new appointment for that clinic. Currently there are 409 service users awaiting an appointment to be seen by their local community mental health team, with the average waiting time for a new appointment within North Dublin Mental Health Services across the seven teams being approximately 26 weeks.

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