



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Rannan na nOspideil Ghearmhíochaine
Aonad 4A – Áras Dargan
An Ceantar Theas
An Bothar Mileata
Cill Mhaighneann
BÁC 8

Acute Operations
Health Service Executive
Unit 4A - The Dargan Building
Heuston South Quarter
Military Road
Kilmainham
Dublin 8.

29th September 2021

Deputy Emer Higgins
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2.

PQ 43326/21

- ***To ask the Minister for Health the current waiting time for assessment by the HSE National Gender Service; and the action that is being taken to reduce waiting times; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Emer Higgins***

Dear Deputy Higgins,

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 wish to advise you that contact was made with Ireland East Hospital Group, they responded with the below;

There are currently over 800 people on the waiting list who are waiting to be seen in the National Gender Service, and because of the ongoing increase in demand for the service this number is expected to grow. The current waiting time for services at the National Gender Service is approximately two and a half years.

I understand that further development of multidisciplinary gender care delivery in Ireland (including gender clinics) both in services for Children & Adolescents and for Adults is ongoing.

To address the deficit in capacity, 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 tackling the waiting list and allow the NGS to offer a more diverse range of supports and interventions. The staff requested include additional Consultant Psychiatrists, but are mainly of other personnel (specifically, Social Workers, Occupational Therapists, Specialist Nurses, Physician Associates, and Speech and Language Therapists). CHI at Crumlin has recently interviewed and appointed a Paediatric Endocrinologist; further approval will lead to recruitment of additional staff which will help reduce waiting times for the service.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,



Carol Ivory
General Manager
Acute Operations