



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte,
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12th October 2021

Deputy Violet-Anne Wynne
Dail Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ 47035/21

To ask the Minister for Health if he plans to increase the number of child and adolescent mental health service units made available nationwide given they are only in counties Dublin, Cork and Galway and only two of them take out-of-hours admissions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Violet-Anne Wynne

Dear Deputy Wynne,

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.

There are currently 72 CAMHS inpatient beds across four inpatient units in Galway Cork and two units in Dublin – Linn Dara in Cherry Orchard, and St Vincents in Fairview.

There are also plans for additional beds - bringing the total number of inpatient beds for CAMHS to 104 -

- **New Children's Hospital of Ireland**
Construction is progressing on the New Children's Hospital which is being developed at the campus of St. James's Hospital in Dublin. The St. James's site ensures that the planned co-location with an adult hospital and, ultimately, tri-location with a maternity hospital, will be delivered. It will accommodate the national specialist eating disorder service with 8 inpatient beds and a 12 bed general inpatient unit. Completion of the new children's hospital is planned for 2023.
- **New National Forensic Hospital**
The National Forensic Mental Health Service (NFMHS) is a new state-of-the-art facility located in Portrane, North County Dublin. The Service will provide care for 170 patients in the facility as well as community and prison in-reach services. The development will also include a 10 bed secure adolescent inpatient unit. Services are due to move in to the facility in 2021.

All CAMHS inpatient units currently provide a 7 day service.



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Community CAMHS:

Emergency referrals –CAMHS Community Teams operate Mon-Fri from 9.00 to 5.00. Outside of these hours, or in an emergency situation where no Community CAMH Team is available, it is advised to contact emergency services, the local Doctor on Call Service or attend the local Accident & Emergency Department.

In many areas of the country a CAMHS Psychiatrist is on call 24 hours and can be contacted by the Emergency services if required. Where this is not currently available, a child/adolescent can access a Mental Health assessment through the Emergency Department, and be referred, if required, as priority to the Community Team or Inpatient Unit on the next working day.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Ryan
Assistant National Director - Head of Operations
National Mental Health Services