



Oifig an Ceannaire Seirbhíse
Seirbhísí Meabhairshláinte an Mheán Iarthair
Cúram Sláinte Phobail FSS an Mheán Iarthair
Ospidéal Naomh Iosaf
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Office of Head of Service
HSE Mid West Community Healthcare
Mid-West Mental Health Services
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Deputy Violet Anne Wynne
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 3
D02 XR20

19th December 2022

Dear Ms Wynne,

PQ ref 60347/22: To ask the Minister for Health the current position in respect of the provision of CAMHS dietician specialist services in County Clare; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

CAMHS-Mid West Community Healthcare (MWCH) received approval for the appointment of two Senior Dietitians to the service and recruitment to these positions is being progressed at the present time. However, recent experience indicates that suitably qualified dietitians at this grade and with required experience are in short supply. Nevertheless, continued efforts are being made to recruit to these funded posts.

Since mid-2021 the CAMHS Mid-West Community Healthcare has provided a limited dietetic service through private provision funded by Mental Health Services. We prioritise for children and adolescents attending CAMHS for the treatment of Eating Disorders. To date, funding has been approved and provided in respect of 35 children and young people across the region. No request for funding under this initiative has been refused to date.

It is anticipated that once the two posts mentioned above are filled, the CAMHS Mid-West Community Healthcare will be in a position to begin to provide dietetic intervention, support and advice as part of the multi-disciplinary team. The service will be available to children and young people attending CAMHS for the treatment of eating disorders but also to other children and young people attending CAMHS who may have other dietary and/or nutrition issues associated with their mental health difficulties.

This is an important service development for CAMHS-Mid West Community Healthcare and one which is being progressed through all channels available at this time.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nuala Kelly".

Nuala Kelly
Head of Service, Mental Health Services
Mid-West Community Healthcare