



Oifig an Príomhoifigeach
Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tire,
An Lú, An Mhí

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,
Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin,
An Tulach Mhór, Co. Uíbh Fhailí.

Office of the Chief Officer
Community Health Organisation
Midlands Louth Meath

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1st March, 2022

Mr Barry Cowen T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Re: Parliamentary Question – 7946/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for a CAMHS appointment in the Laois-Offaly local health office area; the number of these children who are also on a waiting list for a primary care psychology appointment; if he plans to audit, review or reform the CAMHS service in the area in the wake of recent issues; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Barry Cowen

Dear Deputy Cowen,

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 I outline the position as follows.

Midlands Mental Health HSE can confirm that as of 31st of January 2022, there are 35 children on the Offaly CAMHS Service waiting list and 141 children on Laois CAMHS Service waiting list. Therefore in total for Laois and Offaly CAMHS Services we have 176 children on the waiting list.

Primary Care psychology does not cross-check its waiting lists with CAMHS or other services to see if children are on more than one waiting list. All children are accepted or not accepted to primary care psychology based on their clinical presentation and the appropriateness of primary care psychology to meet those clinical needs

I can also confirm that the Laois / Offaly CAMHS service will participate in the audit of CAMHS services which was announced in recent weeks and the team will embrace opportunities to improve services.

I trust the above is in order, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Des O'Flynn
Chief Officer
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation