



Mr Paul McAuliffe TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

18th July 2022

PQ 37497/22 - the number of persons currently waiting for a psychology appointment in primary care in each LHO area in CHO9; the number who have been waiting over a year; the way that this compares to the end of 2021 in each LHO area and in each category; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy McAuliffe,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

CHO DNCC Primary Care PQ 37497/22				
Primary Care CHO DNCC	2022 The number of persons waiting for a psychology appointment	2021 The number of persons waiting for a psychology appointment	2022 The number who have been waiting over a year	2021 The number who have been waiting over a year
Dublin North West	1563	1459	610	801
Dublin North Central	444	335	150	178
Dublin North	897	929	577	650
Total	2904	2723	2524	1629

The Psychology Department has faced service delivery challenges during COVID and the cyber-attack along with increased referral rates both due to the effect of COVID and the addition of new care groups under the CAMHS-Operational Guideline (2019) and National Access Policy. CHO DNCC are currently running a waiting list initiative with development funding and have benefitted from the introduction of the new Psychology Assistant grade to address waiting lists.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Tom O'Brien
Head of Service Primary Care