



Eagraíocht Cúram
Sláinte Pobail
Tuaisceart Chathair &
Tuaisceart Chontae
Baile Átha Cliath

Community Healthcare
Organisation
Dublin North City &
County

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse Meabhairshláinte Eagraíocht
Cúram Sláinte Pobail
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Head of Service Mental Health Community
Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County,
Swords Business Campus, Balheary Road,
Swords Co. Dublin K67 X3Y9

28th July 2022

Ms. Roisin Shorthall TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

By Email: roisin.shortall@oireachtas.ie

PQ Ref 39420/22 - To ask the Minister for Health the action being taken around suicide prevention and mental health, in particular for younger persons in the HSE CHO DNCC area; and if he will make a statement on the matter. **Roisin Shorthall TD**

Dear Deputy Shorthall,

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

The *Connecting for Life* (CFL) Suicide Prevention Action and Implementation Plan for Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) extension plan for 2021 - 2024 was launched on the 15th July 2022. Extending the National Strategy to 2024 provides further opportunity for the CHODNCC CFL Interagency Steering Group to build upon the 2018-2020 CFL Action Plan and advance many, already-established and locally-based, CFL actions. Attracting, engaging, and involving all of society in the implementation of CFL remains crucial to its success. There are work stream groups comprising of a number of key stakeholders in youth mental health including representatives from the Traveller community, Jigsaw, Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education & Training Board (DDLETB), Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC) and LGBTI+. There are 19 actions in the CFL Suicide Prevention Action and Implementation Plan that specifically relate to youth mental health.

There are currently two Resource Officers for Suicide Prevention in CHO DNCC and their roles are to coordinate the local Connecting for Life action plans. They lead important work to integrate suicide prevention service delivery and mental health promotion, coordinate suicide critical incident response and postvention supports, and assist with the development and implementation of new suicide prevention initiatives and services.

CHO DNCC Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) has been liaising with Jigsaw service in order to foster closer working relationships in progressing a partnership and integration agenda for the benefit of service users for the continuum of mental health care to young people.

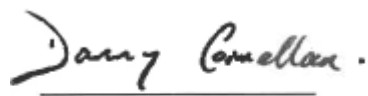
In 2021, the National Clinical Programme for Self-Harm and Suicide Related Ideation approved funding for two Clinical Nurse Specialists in the Emergency Department, Temple Street Hospital, for children presenting with self-harm and suicidal ideation.

In 2022, the National Clinical Programme for Eating Disorders approved funding for a Child and adolescent Eating Disorders Specialist Team to serve the CHO DNCC geographic area. The team is in the early stage of recruitment.

CHO DNCC Mental Health Services recently recruited a Mental Health Service Coordinator for Youth to coordinate the provision of services and address gaps in service provision, including out of hours services across the CHO. The Lead will commence work with key stakeholders in Quarter 4 2022 to implement the recommendations from the Youth Mental Health Task Force. The objective is to support improved access, consistency, and integration of mental health services for young people.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danny Connellan." The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mr Danny Connellan
Interim Head of Service Mental Health
Dublin North City and County