



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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12.07.2022

Mr. Brendan Howlin T.D.
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ: 35031/22

To ask the Minister for Health if his attention has been drawn to the unacceptably long waiting lists for CAMHS services in County Wexford including child and adolescent psychology and occupational therapy; the plans he has to address this matter; if he will consider providing supports to families to obtain private treatment for children in urgent need under the treatment purchase scheme; if he will review the current waiting lists and instigate a waiting list initiative within CAMHS similar to the initiative which was run in the National Counselling Service; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Howlin,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have reviewed this matter and the following is the position:

There are 2 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service teams in Wexford both of whom operate under the clinical leadership of a Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist who are registered with the appropriate Irish Medical Council specialist register.

Both CAMHS teams operate with a multi-disciplinary team comprising of a range of health and social care professionals inclusive of psychology, nursing and occupational therapy.

Wexford CAMHS are actively managing waiting lists and in addition to local initiatives I can confirm that Wexford CAMHS are included on a CHO5 CAMHS business case submission to the HSE national waiting list initiative programme.

Currently CHO5 CAMHS have the lowest waiting times of all 9 CHO's.

I am also delighted to confirm that approval has been provided for the development of a third CAMHS team for Wexford and the recruitment process is currently underway.

Yours sincerely,

David Heffernan
Head of Mental Health Services
South East Community Healthcare