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8th April 2022
Deputy Seán Haughey
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 16779/22 - To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on the community wait list initiatives in the 2022 HSE Service Plan.

-Seán Haughey

Dear Deputy Haughey,

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

There is high level reference to community wait list initiatives in the 2022 HSE Service Plan, however, the 2022 Waiting List Action Plan was published by the Minister on 25 February 2022. The Action Plan can be viewed at this link <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/323b5-the-2022-waiting-list-action-plan/#>. The Action Plan sets out an additional €200m fund allocated to the HSE and €150m to the NTPF for waiting list initiatives. €20m of the HSE funding has been allocated to initiatives that will reduce specific community care waiting lists (including orthodontics, primary care child psychology/counselling, CAMHS and autism).

Community services are seeking to maximise the impact of the €20m and develop targeted proposals for 2022. At this time, €12.1m of the €20m has been approved by the HSE in the following areas and are at varying stages of implementation with further proposals under consideration including in children's disability services:

1. Counselling in Primary Care (CIPC)
2. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
3. Primary Care Child Psychology
4. Orthodontics

In addition to allocating in-year funding to support increased activity in 2022 in the community, the 2022 Waiting List Action Plan includes a number of key actions focused on addressing community care access and waiting lists, including:


- Design and implement the Integrated Community Case Management System (ICCMS) as a foundational case management system which will also support communication between healthcare providers and effective management, planning and delivery of services

- To participate in the modernised scheduled care pathway programme of work related to current acute waiting lists and support the feasibility and implementation planning of pathway proposals to deliver more services in the community in line with the Sláintecare vision
- Develop a process to complete a capacity and demand analysis across community waiting lists.
- To undertake an options appraisal of wider reforms, in line with the Sláintecare vision which may provide additional measures to reduce community waiting lists
- Define and develop an implementation plan for agreement of appropriate maximum wait-time targets for community services in scope. The scope of which is to be agreed

These actions are key foundational steps to enabling longer term fundamental reform, enhancing integration between acute and community services and improving access to care in the community, including mental health services.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Yvonne O'Neill,
Interim National Director,
Community Operations