

14<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Deputy Thomas Gould  
Dáil Éireann  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 27906/22**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the average wait time for children in each of the Cork CAMHS teams.”**

Dear Deputy Gould,

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.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) services are designed for children and adolescents presenting with moderate to severe mental health needs. All referrals received to CAMHS services are triaged as per CAMHS Operational Guideline 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Nov 2019. The referral is then either accepted or rejected at that point. There are two types of referral; an urgent referral and a routine referral. Every effort is made to prioritise urgent referrals so that young people with high risk presentations are seen as soon as possible and this is often within 24 to 48 hours. This may impact on wait times for presentations that are triaged, to be less severe.

Actual waiting time per team is outlined as per the breakdown of the waiting list below for Cork CAMHS teams as of April 2022:

	0-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	12-18 Months	18-24 Months
<b>South Lee 1</b>	25	28	28	15	10	2
<b>South Lee 2</b>	10	10	8	6	1	0
<b>South Lee 3</b>	35	47	37	28	21	3
<b>West Cork</b>	22	12	1	2	9	0
<b>North Lee North</b>	10	18	12	2	5	0
<b>North Lee West</b>	15	8	9	2	17	0
<b>North Lee East</b>	9	12	8	1	0	0
<b>North Cork</b>	29	30	28	17	46	17

Furthermore, I wish to assure you that all efforts continue to be made locally to address and reduce waiting list in CAMHS Cork Kerry Community Healthcare and we are committed to continuing these efforts to ensure that better access to a safe and effective service is delivered.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Kind Regards,



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**Mr Kevin Morrison**  
**A/Head of Service**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**