



**Cúram Sláinte
Phobail, Iarthar**
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,
Maighéo agus Ros Comáin

**Community
Healthcare West**
serving Galway, Mayo
and Roscommon

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21st November 2022

Éamon Ó Cuív TD
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ ref: 55787/22

To ask the Minister for Health the reason for the delay in accessing the CAMHS service in Galway City and county; the urgent action being taken to provide a quality service to young people in the county who require these services urgently; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Ó Cuív,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position;

We acknowledge the delays in accessing our CAMH Services at the moment, and apologise for the difficulties this presents for young people and their families. For the first time ever, we have had to commence a waiting list for Galway CAMHS, due to unprecedented post-pandemic demand for CAMHS, as well as difficulties in recruiting CAMHS professionals.

All referrals to CAMHS are reviewed and prioritised.

We have an active waiting list management system, regularly reviewing clinical priority of referrals.

We have also recently received funding as part of the national CAMHS Waiting List Initiative and are supporting CAMHS teams in addressing current waiting list.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Charlie Meehan
Head of Mental Health Services
Community Healthcare West