



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

Community Healthcare
Organisation
Dublin North City &
County

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse Meabhairshláinte Eagraíocht
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Head of Service Mental Health Community Healthcare
Organisation Dublin North City & County,
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16th December 2022

Ms Neasa Hourigan TD.
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 1.

PQ 59024/22 - To ask the Minister for Health his plans to address waiting times for children seeking to undergo an ADHD assessment, in particular in CHO 9; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - **Neasa Hourigan TD**

Dear Deputy Hourigan,

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.

I wish to advise that referrals to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) in Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County (CHO9), are reviewed by one of our eight CAMHS Team's Referrals Committee, led by a Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, on a weekly basis. All referrals to CAMHS are reviewed through this process, including those looking for an ADHD assessment.

A clinical decision is made based on the information received in the referral, in line with the HSE Operational Guideline for CAMHS (2019). If the child meets the threshold for CAMHS, they are placed on the relevant CAMHS team waiting list. Every effort is made to prioritise urgent referrals so that young people who are deemed high risk are seen as soon as possible. Placement on the waiting list is determined by the level of urgency, i.e. urgent or routine. Referrals for ADHD assessments are reviewed as part of this process.

The waiting list is reviewed on a regular basis and is amended if a child's level of acuity changes. Further information may then be requested from the referrer in order to adjust the waiting list accordingly.

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,

Donal Cassidy
Head of Service Mental Health
CHO Dublin North City & County