

06th October 2022

Mairead Farrell T.D.
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ ref: 46772/22

**To ask the Minister for Health if CAMHS is currently accepting new patients in Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter. **

Dear Deputy Farrell,

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;

Galway CAMHS are accepting new patients. However, for the first time ever, we have had to commence a waiting list for CAMHS services, due to unprecedented post-pandemic demand for CAMHS, as well as difficulties in recruiting CAMHS professionals.

All referrals to CAMHS are reviewed and prioritised on the basis of clinical necessity. 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 preparing plans to support CAMHS teams in addressing current waiting lists.

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