



Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte  
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Deputy Mark Ward,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

08<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**PQ Number: 4143/23**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of CAMHS teams per CHO that offer out-of-hours mental health treatment; the reason that this has not been developed in CHOs despite the commitment to do so in the 2019 national service plan; the current progress of delivering this commitment; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Mark Ward**

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Dear Deputy Ward,

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.

Currently there are no out-of-hours CAMHS teams operating in any of the CHO areas. However, the development of CAMHS tele-hubs initiative will form part of an overall out-of-hours response. Recommendation 35 of *Sharing the Vision – A Mental Health Policy for Everyone (StV)* Implementation Plan, looks at the development of a comprehensive out-of-hours CAMHS response.

The implementation of this recommendation is being progressed in two parts.

1. A National CAMHS Hub Steering group has been established to progress development of a Standard Operating Procedure for CAMHS hubs which is at final review stage. A service design process, incorporating literature review, webinar, logic model has been completed. Five pilot site locations have been identified and budget allocation agreed. Phase 1 of the CAMHS Hubs model can provide a step-up brief intervention service for existing service users in acute crisis, within an agreed catchment area to an agreed number of CAMHS teams. Monitoring of implementation will support the identification of further resourcing requirements to expand the model as appropriate.

2. Within the implementation structures for StV a Children and Young Person Workstream has been established and the plan for tiered out of hours model will be scoped within the workstream. Any proposed work plan will be in keeping with the implementation of recommendations in the Maskey Report.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.



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Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Mc Cusker'.

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**Tony Mc Cusker**  
**General Manager**  
**National Mental Health Services**