

Community Healthcare West serving Galway, Mayo and Roscommon

## Head of Mental Health Services

Community Healthcare West, St. Mary's Headquarters, Castlebar, Co. Mayo, F23 HP58. Tel: 094 9049242 Email: <u>Mentalhealth.cho2@hse.ie</u>

Ceannasaí na Seirbhísí Meabhairshláinte Cúram Sláinte Phobail, Iarthar, Ceanncheathrú N. Muire, Caisleán an Bharraigh, Co. Mhaigh Eo, F23 HP58. T: 094 9049242 R: <u>Mentalhealth.cho2@hse.ie</u>

> katrina.cusack@hse.ie 094 9049241 cathy.kennedy@hse.ie 094 9049242 laura.costello@hse.ie 090 6637543

19<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Michael Ring, TD Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

PQ 34517/23

\* To ask the Minister for Health the reason no specific service (Consultant Child Psychiatrist for Intellectual Disability Services Mayo/Roscommon area) is being provided in an area; what plans are there to address this situation; if an advertisement has been placed to recruit the position; if so, the outcome of the recruitment campaign; how many children are currently waiting for this service; and if he will make a statement on the matter\*

Dear Deputy Ring,

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 apologise for the difficulties accessing CAMHS MHID in Mayo but, regrettably, since the retirement of the last Consultant Psychiatrist for CAMHS MHID, Mayo, despite numerous attempts to recruit including reconfiguring the post to a full Whole Time Equivalent to make the position more attractive to recruit to, we have been unsuccessful in recruiting to the vacant post.

As a result we are unable to provide specialist MHID CAMHS in Mayo except in an emergency, via CAMHS Liaison in Mayo General Hospital. It must be noted that such referrals are to a generic CAMHS team and not to specialised CAMHS MHID.

There are no waiting lists as any referrals for this service are being returned to the original referrer as we are unable to provide a service at this point in time.

We continue to try to recruit for this post as a service priority.

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