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Deputy Wynne,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

07th February 2024

PQ Number: 4638/24

To ask the Minister for Health the full detail of location, composition, staffing complement and services offered at each of the new CAMHS hubs, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.-Violet-Anne Wynne.

Dear Deputy Wynne,

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.

The vision for CAMHS Hubs is to provide intensive brief mental health interventions to support existing CAMHS teams in delivering enhanced responses to children, young people and their families/carers, in times of acute mental health crisis.

Under Phase 1 of the planned programme of work, as referenced in the Model of Care, a CAMHS Hub will provide an additional multi-disciplinary service for children and young people under 18 years who are attending a CAMHS Community Team, who are presenting in acute mental health crisis and / or are in need of a short period of intensive community treatment. All referrals to the hub are made via existing CAMHS Community Mental Health Teams, where it is determined that the needs of the young person can be met more effectively in the community, through a rapid response and time-bound, intensive brief intervention.

Location of CAMHS Hubs Learning Sites

In total 5 CHO areas will progress the pilot development of CAMHS Hubs

- CHO 2*
- CHO 3
- CHO 4
- CHO 6



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- CHO 8

*CHO 2 CAMHS Hub is an advanced Hub site; in development from 2020 onwards. Site locations operational include CHO 2 and CHO 6. The remaining sites are awaiting final recruitment of staff.

Staffing Composition

In order to offer a brief intervention enhanced service response, the CAMHS Hub Team should be staffed by a core multidisciplinary team, which consists of the following disciplines:

- Child and Adolescent Consultant Psychiatrist
- Nursing, ANP
- Senior Social Worker
- Senior Occupational Therapist
- Admin Grade IV

CAMHS Hubs function

The CAMHS Hub service will:

- Provide a rapid response following urgent referral from the Community CAMHS team.
- Provide intensive brief intervention and support in the early stages of the mental health crisis.
- Enable active involvement of the young person, parent/ family and carers.
- Ensure an assertive approach to engagement.
- Provide a time-limited/ short-term intervention initially for 2 to 4 weeks that has sufficient flexibility to respond to differing children and young people's needs, with scope for exceptional cases of a 2nd assessment at 4 weeks and extension to a maximum of 8 weeks, based on clinical judgement and service user need.
- Support the young person and parent/carer(s) to start to develop insight with a view to reducing/preventing recurring crises based on Recovery Model principles.
- Develop collaborative partnership working arrangement with other services to enable credible alternative pathways to admission.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



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