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14th April, 2025

Deputy Mairéad Farrell, TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

RE: 15624/25

To ask the Minister for Health for a list of the transgender representative groups that were consulted before making the decision to spend €1.4 million on a national clinical programme for gender healthcare

Dear Deputy Farrell,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in relation to the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have consulted with the National Clinical Advisor and Group Lead for Children and Young People (NCAGL C&YP) on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

A HSE Steering Committee was established in May 2019 to address specific issues in relation to the development of Transgender Identity Services.

Completed in February 2020, the *Final Report of the Steering Committee on the Development of HSE Transgender Identity Services* is available here: <u>https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/primarycare/socialinclusion/lgbti/final-report-of-the-steering-committee-on-the-development-of-hse-transgender-identity-services.pdf</u>

The Steering Committee had a wide range of stakeholders from agencies involved in delivering care. Stakeholders included two advocacy representatives from Transgender Equality Network Ireland (TENI) and a representative from the ThisIsMe advocacy group.

One of the recommendations of this report document was that the HSE Executive Management Team consider revisiting the current Model of Care for transgender services.

The HSE Gender Healthcare Programme is being established to develop an updated Model of Care for gender healthcare services in Ireland, with an aim of providing safe and effective health and social care for those seeking healthcare services.

The model of care will be developed in a consultative way, engaging with stakeholders, healthcare professionals working in the area of gender healthcare and service users and their families. People with lived experience will be invited to participate in the work of the programme. Information on this will be updated on our website <u>https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/gender/</u>

We are committed to building a gender healthcare service in Ireland based on experience and clinical evidence, respect, inclusiveness and compassion.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Anne Horgan General Manager