



7th April, 2025

Deputy Paul Murphy, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: 15728/25

To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 224 of 19 February 2025, the means by which people with lived experience will be involved in the Gender Healthcare programme; and if it will be in line with the Inform, Consult, Discuss or Collaborate degree of engagement in the HSE's Better Together: The Health Services Patient Engagement Roadmap

Dear Deputy Murphy,

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) and the Gender Healthcare Programme on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

The HSE has initiated a new Gender Healthcare Programme to develop an updated clinical model of care for gender healthcare services for the Irish population. It is expected that this work will take approximately two years. Our goal is to develop a person-centred model of care and develop an integrated gender healthcare service that meets the needs of people in Ireland.

Our initial work will involve carrying out an evidence-based review of current research. We will be led by best evidence, so our guidance will also change and evolve over the coming years, as the evidence base develops.

The updated clinical model of care will be developed in a consultative way, engaging with healthcare professionals, patients and their families, who will be involved in the design of services. Stakeholder engagement will be guided by the standards, regulations, policies, procedures and legislation as set out by the HSE.

Information on our process and progress is available on our microsite webpage, which will be updated as the work develops: <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/ncps/gender/gender.html>

The HSE's Gender Healthcare Programme is 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