



Ceann Seirbhíse, Meabhairshláinte  
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin  
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail  
Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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Sorca Clarke TD,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2,  
D02 XR20.

17<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**PQ 35972/25**

**To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the commissioning and staffing of the new CAMHS unit in the New Children's Hospital; how is it progressing; the estimated date for when it will commence its operations; her views on whether this will help the emergency flow of children and adolescents to the new hospital and St. James's; and if she will make a statement on the matter.**

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Dear Deputy Clarke,

I refer to the above representation. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

A comprehensive workforce plan has been developed by the Mental Health Service for the new Acute Mental Health Unit at the National Children's Hospital, Ireland (NCHI).

Discussions are ongoing between the HSE and the Department of Health in the context of the 2026 Estimates process. The unit is expected to open on a phased basis, in line with the broader opening schedule of the new Children's Hospital.

A dedicated commissioning team has been established to support the activation of the unit. Subject to the necessary approvals, a key focus of the commissioning work streams is the development and operationalisation of integrated care pathways for children and young people presenting to the NCHI and the St James's Hospital campus. This aims to ensure a seamless and responsive service for those accessing unscheduled care at both sites.

I trust this information is of assistance. Should you require any further clarification please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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**Mr Kevin Brady,**  
**Head of Service Mental Health,**  
**Community Healthcare Dublin South, Kildare West Wicklow**