

23rd June, 2025

Deputy Liam Quaide,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 30851/25

“To ask the Minister for Health if the adult ADHD HSE service in Cork is currently taking referrals; the current staffing levels for the service; the wait-time to be offered an initial appointment; and the wait-time for psychology if applicable”.

Dear Deputy Quaide,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for the Minister for Health for a response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Adult ADHD Services

Adult Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) services in Cork are provided through the Cork Adult ADHD Tertiary Care Hub (CATCH) service, a specialist team based at Ballincollig Primary Care Centre. This service covers the South Lee, North Lee, and North Cork catchment areas.

Referrals to the CATCH service are made through the Community Mental Health Teams (CMHTs), who conduct a preliminary assessment. If the individual meets the criteria for specialist care, they are referred onward to the CATCH team. Those who do not meet the threshold for specialist intervention continue to receive care and treatment through their local CMHT.

For individuals in West Cork, ADHD services are delivered via outreach from the Kerry service.

Is the adult ADHD HSE service in Cork is currently taking referrals?

The Adult ADHD Service in Cork is currently accepting referrals from General Adult Community Teams and Specialist Teams in the sectors of South Lee, North Lee and North Cork for those attending these services with a mental health difficulty and considered to be experiencing moderate to severe symptoms of ADHD in addition to moderate to severe functional impairment as a result of ADHD symptoms (as defined by Model of Care for ADHD in Adults 2019). In addition to this the service is also accepting transfers of care from CAMHS teams in the catchment area.

The current staffing levels for the service.

The staffing level defined by the Model of Care for ADHD in Adults 2019 is 4 whole time equivalents (WTE) (Consultant Psychiatrist, Senior Clinical Psychologist, Senior Occupational Therapist and Clinical Nurse Specialist). The current staffing level of the team is 2.8 wte, due to staff availing of statutory leave entitlements, once this concludes the staffing level is expected to return to 3.8 clinicians in the last quarter of 2025.

The wait-time to be offered an initial appointment.

The service is currently completing initial assessments for referrals that were received in February and March 2024. The current estimated wait time is 15-18 months for new assessments. The current wait time for CAMHS transfers is 3-4 months.



The wait-time for psychology, if applicable.

Psychology is one component of the psychosocial intervention program available within the service and is delivered with consideration for individual need, preference and care plan. The current wait time for group or individual intervention is approximately 6 weeks.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

**Acting Head of Services
Mental Health Services**