



23 June 2025

Deputy Barry Ward, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 32512/25

To ask the Minister for Health the position regarding the adoption of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health guidelines for healthcare professionals working with transgender and gender non-conforming individuals in an Irish context; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ward,

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. Our goal is to develop a person-centred model of care and when completed, this will support the development of an integrated gender healthcare service that meets the needs of people in Ireland. The updated clinical model of care is being developed in a consultative way, engaging with stakeholders including advocacy groups, healthcare professionals and patients.

As part of the HSE's approach for developing models of care, international practice and guidance will be studied, which will include examination of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) Standards. There is no requirement for the outcome of this work to be aligned with the approach of any particular organisation. The outcome will be informed and guided by the needs of people living in Ireland.

We are committed to building this service based on clinical experience and 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