



25th March 2025

Mr Paul Donnelly T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Email: paul.donnelly@oireachtas.ie

PQ 9581/25 – “To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide details of the emergency out of hours mental health services currently available to adults in CHO 9 and the process required to obtain this service.” Paul Donnelly TD

Dear Deputy,

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

I wish to advise that any individual within Integrated Health Areas Dublin North County, Dublin North City and West has 24/7 access to emergency out-of-hours mental health services. Emergency out-of-hours mental health services for adults are provided through the emergency departments at Connolly Hospital, Beaumont Hospital and the Mater Hospital. This service operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Outside of regular working hours, the service is delivered by an on-call non-consultant hospital doctor and an on-call consultant psychiatrist. Following assessment, individuals receive a mental health evaluation, formulation, and an initial treatment plan.

Depending on clinical need, further care may include: Admission to a psychiatric hospital for ongoing care. For those not requiring admission, interventions such as advice, psychoeducation, signposting to other services, or referral to community-based treatment options (e.g., community mental health teams) may be provided. Community mental health teams primarily operate during normal working hours.

A range of supports is available for emotional and psychosocial needs, including helplines such as Pieta House, Samaritans, Women's Aid, Sonas, Drugs.ie, and Aware.ie, as well as online and text services, which provide additional avenues for support outside of formal mental health services.

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

Yours sincerely,

Donal Cassidy
Head of Service Mental Health
Covering Integrated Health Areas Dublin North County
and Dublin North City and West