



16 May 2025

Deputy Maireád Farrell, TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**RE: PQ 22259/25**

**To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 793 of 1 April 2025, if in line with recommendation five of the named report the Gender Healthcare Programme will be primarily looking to update HSE quality improvement division's model of care which sought to develop clinical guidelines guided by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health**

Dear Deputy Farrell,

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 Clinical 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 HSE model of care will be informed by the evidence and will prepare a care pathway for our Irish patients and will support the doctors, nurses and health and social care professionals (HSCPs) who work in gender healthcare.

An updated clinical model of care is being developed in a consultative way, engaging with stakeholders including advocacy groups, healthcare professionals and patients, who will be involved in the design of services, and which will inform the delivery and evaluation of those services. As part of this HSE standardised 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 and 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

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**Anne Horgan**  
**General Manager**