



Ceannasai Seirbhíse, Cúram Priomhúil
FSS Meán Iarthair

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22nd May 2025

Deputy Joe Cooney
Lower Market St., Ennis
Co. Clare

Re: PQ 23663/25 - "To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for Psychology Services in Primary Care within CHO3".

Dear Deputy Cooney,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Principal Psychology Manager has confirmed that at the end of April 2025, there were 1152 children on the waiting list to be seen by Primary Care Psychology Services across the HSE Mid West area (Limerick, Clare and Nth. Tipperary).

The Principal Psychology Manager also advised that when a referral is accepted by the Psychology Service in Limerick, parents/guardians are invited to be added to the mailings list which is used by the service to notify parents of monthly parenting workshops which they can then register for. If parent(s)/guardian(s) attend a workshop, they can then book an individual parent support clinic with a Psychologist, if this is required and it can be online or face to face. It is planned to extend this support to parent(s)/guardian(s) across the entire HSE Mid West area in the coming months.

Primary Care Psychology Services have workshops coming up on supporting young people with anxiety, sensory needs and also supporting children on how to manage their big emotions, which parents/guardians may be helpful. These workshops are also widely advertised in schools, local services and local newspapers. If a parent/guardian is not receiving information about these workshops and they would like to do so, they can contact the service on 061-483692 and request to be added to the mailing list.

The Primary Care Psychology Service has also recently developed a bibliotherapy resource for families, carers and young people. It offers parents, caregivers, adolescents and children helpful resource suggestions to better understand and manage mild to moderate psychological and emotional stresses and difficulties. This resource can be accessed on the link below or by scanning the QR code on the poster attached.

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/1/lho/limerick/children%20and%20family%20services/>

I trust the above information addresses the issues raised in your representation.

Yours sincerely,


Carmel McLaughlin
General Manager Primary Care

Encl.