

Dearadh agus Nuálaíocht Chliniciúil, Oifig an Príohoifigeach Cliniciúil Ospidéal Dr. Steevens, D08 W2A8

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Deputy Ryan O'Meara, TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

RE: PQ 50469/25

To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide an update on the waiting times for genderaffirming care in Ireland, which are currently more than ten years; if members of the trans community will be consulted about this issue; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy O'Meara,

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 National Gender Service website (www.nationalgenderserviceireland.com) includes an outline of the existing clinical processes, waiting times, pathways and involvement of the multidisciplinary team.

The HSE Gender Healthcare Programme is being established to develop an updated clinical model of care for gender healthcare services in Ireland, with an aim of designing a clinical pathway for safe and effective health and social care for those seeking gender healthcare. This work includes engagement with interest holders with lived experience.

As in other countries, demand for gender healthcare services in Ireland has increased exponentially over the last decade, and current capacity within HSE funded services is not meeting this demand. We are aware that our gender healthcare services are limited at this time and are not meeting people's full range of needs.

We are committed to building a service in Ireland for the Irish population that is based on experience and clinical 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	