



Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte
Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin,
Baile Phámar Baile Átha Cliath 20.
R: PQReps.NatMHOPS@hse.ie

Head of Operations, Mental Health Service
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Deputy John McGuinness,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

25th July 2022

PQ Number: 31819/22

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the way that it is proposed to address the current challenges that people are experiencing securing consultations with psychiatrists; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -John McGuinness

Dear Deputy McGuinness,

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

The HSE's Performance Profile Report - PPR (previously known as the Performance Assurance Report) provides an overall analysis of key performance data from Divisions, such as Acute, Mental Health, Older Persons, Disability Services, Primary Care, Finance and HR. The activity data reported is based on Performance Activity and Key Performance Indicators outlined in the current National Service Plan.

The PPR is part of the performance assurance process overseen by the National Performance Oversight Group (NPOG). It monitors performance against planned activity, as outlined in the NSP. The PPR also provides an update to the Department of Health on the delivery of the NSP. The latest reports are available at the following link

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/performance-reports/>

Key Performance Indicator Metadata

KPI Metadata templates are completed for all National Service Plan metrics and provide the most up to date information relating to KPIs. These include information such as definition, rationale, reporting frequency, and data source. See link hereunder for KPI metadata for Mental Health.

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/kpis/2022%20mental%20health%20nsp%20metadata.pdf>



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Performance Monitoring and Reporting of Services

Latest available preliminary data for mental health services for June indicate the following:

- Nationally there was a decrease of 120 children on the waiting list for community mental health services, from 4,295 in May to 4,175 in June 2022
- As of the end of June, 72.6% of referrals accepted by child and adolescent community teams nationally were offered an appointment within 12 weeks against a target of $\geq 80\%$
- Nationally, 90.8% of urgent referrals to CAMHS were responded to within three working days, above the $\geq 90\%$ target.
- 88.5% of referred patients were offered an appointment within 12 weeks in general adult mental health YTD June 2022 against a target of $\geq 90\%$
- 94% of referred patients in Psychiatry of Old Age services were offered an appointment within 12 weeks YTD June 2022 against a target of $\geq 98\%$

At national level, monthly engagement meetings are held with each CHO area in order to address areas of operational performance.

*Please be advised that data above is draft and is subject to ongoing change and validation

Investment in Mental Health Services

The total mental health funding for 2022 amounts to €1,159m. Since 2012, the mental health budget has grown by €452m of which €325m relates to development funding for priority service enhancements. These targeted investments have been directed by national mental health policy as outlined in Vision for Change (2007), Connecting for Life (2015), Sharing the Vision (2020) and in line with the broader Sláintecare reform programme.

The continued development of Mental Health Services has been aimed at:

- Modernising Mental Health Services that historically were centred on institutional care by building our workforce and investing in fit for purpose infrastructure



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- Promoting positive mental health at all levels of society, intervening early when problems develop, and providing accessible, comprehensive and community-based Mental Health Services for those who need them
- Taking a person-centred approach with a focus on enabling and supporting the recovery journey of each individual, based on clinical advice and best practice, as well as lived experience

The table below provides the breakdown of the NSP 2022 new development funding. Mental Health received €24m under Programme for Government 2022 funding. As outlined in table 4 of the HSE National Service Plan, the full year cost of these initiatives amounts to €36.36m in 2023. None of the developments outlined in the table below, relate to the reclassification of historic development and all relate to new developments which have been and will continue to progress in 2022. It should be noted that the first elements of this funding were not drawn down until 1st January 2022 and subsequent budget drawdowns will occur during 2022 according as these posts are progressed.

Mental Health - Developments NSP 2022		2022 cost	2023 FY cost
	WTE	€m	€m
National Clinical Programme - Eating Disorders	25.6	1.15	2.3
National Clinical Programme - ADHD	17.5	1.13	1.8
National Clinical Programme – Early Intervention Psychosis	11.2	0.5	1.0
National Clinical Programme – Self Harm	6	0.32	0.42
National Clinical Programme – Dual Diagnosis	14	0.75	1
MoC Specialist MH Services for Older People	10.5	0.56	1.13
CAMHS Hubs	9	0.64	1.15
Sharing the Vision Implementation	2	0.25	0.25
Clonmel Crisis House	6	0.35	0.35
Crisis Resolution Services	27	1.43	2.85
Expanding community services	88.7	4	8
Expansion CAMHS services	48.4	2	4
Individual Placement Supports	0	1.25	1.25
Recovery Colleges	5	1.05	1.05
Peer Support	13	0.4	0.6
CAMS training (suicide prevention)	0	0.22	0.22
NFMHS - removal of Night-time confinement	30	1	2
Private Placements	0	4	5
Mental Health Winter plan - Eating Disorder training	0	0.15	0.15



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Mental Health Winter plan - Placements	0	0.85	0.85
Rent and costs	0	2	2
Total	314	24.0	37.4

A CAMHS waiting list initiative is currently underway, focusing on the specific issues impacting each area which is targeted at reducing the waiting lists by approximately 1, 200 cases.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Tony McCusker
General Manager
National Mental Health Services