



Clinical Design & Innovation; Office of the Chief Clinical Officer Dr Steevens' Hospital, D08 W2A8 E: clinicaldesign@hse.ie

14<sup>th</sup> December, 2023

Deputy Paul Murphy, TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

RE: PQ 54111/23

To ask the Minister for Health if he agrees that in line with WPATH best practices, services should have full and ongoing participation from trans and gender diverse people in relation to decisions about their health and that accordingly the trans community should have been included in the HSE workshop billed as "The Future of Transgender Care in Ireland" on 9 February 2023; if he will agree to meet with trans groups to attempt to rectify this; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Murphy,

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) on your question and have been informed that the following outlines the position.

The HSE is committed to developing, with the support of all relevant stakeholders, a seamless and integrated service for those with Gender Identity issues on an ongoing basis and is focused on providing a high quality and safe service. The HSE is currently recruiting a Clinical Lead for Transgender Services who will lead on the development of and will support implementation of a Model of Care to provide for both the mental and physical healthcare needs of this group from childhood through adolescence and adulthood. The Model of Care will incorporate a multi-tiered approach, which takes into account the emerging international evidence and where care will be delivered at the most appropriate level of medical complexity. The patient will always be at the centre of the service.

At this point in time we have not specified any alignment to the World Professional Association of Transgender Healthcare (WPATH) or any other agencies but rather are committed to base the Model of Care on the best available world-wide clinical evidence. The new Clinical Lead will have the opportunity to work with many stakeholders, clinical and non-clinical, including the trans-community and their advocates, to widely research best practice.

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

