

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024

Mr. Michael Healy-Rae, T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 14591/24**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if, in relation to CAMHS in south Kerry, the scheme is going to be expanded to ensure all children in Kerry who receive apologies for deficits in care, will be entitled to join the south Kerry compensation scheme (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter”**

**Details supplied: “Minister the HSE has undertaken to review 300 CAMHS files in North Kerry. These 300 files are in relation to patients that were attending CAMHS as of 21st Nov 2022. I understand that a large number of North Kerry families have received apologies already. The deficits in care are the exact same as to what occurred in South Kerry. This is very concerning. These individuals and their families are extremely vulnerable. I also understand that in one family where apologies have been issued to four children, two siblings are entitled to join the compensation scheme and the other two siblings have to proceed via the High Court”**

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae,


The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for the Minister for Health for a response. I apologise for the delay in reverting to you with this response.

The existing Kerry CAMHS Compensation Scheme was established in April 2022 following the publication of the Maskey Report. The scheme was established for children who were identified as having deficits in their care and treatment which resulted in harm while attending NCHD1 in the **South Kerry CAMHS team** during the period 1st July 2016 to the 19th April 2021. As such the Compensation Scheme in place deals with a specific grouping of children which does not include those children affected by the North Kerry CAMHS Audit (which informed the requirement for a Lookback Review) the North Kerry CAMHS Lookback Review.

At a regional level we are considering the outcomes of the ongoing review process within North Kerry Mental Health Services as lead by Dr. Colette Halpin;- and as part of the established review process information now available is being shared with patients and their families in the first instances.

This process ensures that in the event that harm has been identified, consideration is given to ongoing care and support requirements of the child at this time.

Yours sincerely,



**Tess O'Donovan**  
Chief Officer