



Oifig an Stiúrthóra Náisiúnta Cúnta
Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte

Ospidéal Naomh Lómáin, Baile Phámar,
Baile Átha Cliath 20, D20 HK69

Office of the
Assistant National Director
Mental Health Operations

St Lomans Hospital, Palmerstown,
Dublin 20, D20 HK69

www.hse.ie
@hselive

t: 01-6207304

e: PQReps.NatMHOPS@hse.ie

Deputy Mark Ward
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

23rd February 2024

PQ Number: 1409/23

PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health if cultural therapies on mental health have been developed for Traveller community; if the Department of Health and Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media have considered developing equine therapies; and if he will make a statement on the matter.-Mark Ward

Dear Deputy Ward,

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.

While the HSE does not provide equine therapy directly there are number of organisations that provide equine therapy that HSE and HSE funded services have availed of in order to meet the needs of individual care plans.

Recommendation 61 of the Sharing the Vision Implementation plan highlights HSE mental health services commitment to deliver diverse and culturally competent mental health supports. This includes providing cultural awareness training to all mental health services to take account of the cultural and diverse needs of the whole population including Travellers. This is a medium term recommendation and work is progressing to complete this by 2027.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Mc Cusker
General Manager
National Mental Health Services

