

9th July 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

I was asked to comment on a Parliamentary Question directed to the Minister for Health on the recently published Cass Report.

Provision of any clinical intervention (including gender affirming hormone therapy and surgical intervention) is based on a fundamental clinical principle that to recommend any clinical intervention the apparent benefits should exceed any apparent risks.

The approved model of care in practice at the National Gender Service (NGS) is based on a multidisciplinary assessment that takes into account all aspects of a person's health and wellbeing over their lifetime, rather than focusing only on gender and gender dysphoria. This assessment results in a formulation of risk and benefit that informs a recommendation on clinical intervention. An outline of the assessment process is on our website www.nationalgenderserviceireland.com

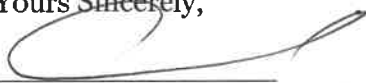
The recently published Cass Review including a systematic review of evidence of outcomes in children. This report is available online at <https://cass.independent-review.uk/publications>

A common experience is contemporary clinical practice in gender healthcare is the emergence of gender questioning for the first time in the latter teenage years, and adulthood, rather than childhood. This can be experience as a sudden thought that arose within the person themselves, or as an understanding gained after talking to other people or from online exploration.

Dr Hilary Cass visiting the National Gender Service during a trip to Ireland on the invitation of the HSE, to discuss the clinical experience in the adult service. No specific personal details of service users were shared during this visit.

I trust the above is useful in answering this query.

Yours Sincerely,



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