



23 September 2024

Ms. Verona Murphy TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 36328/24

To ask the Minister for Health the number of referrals to CAMHS Wexford south in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and up to June 2024; the number of referrals to CAMHS Wexford north in the corresponding timeframe; the number of referrals accepted to Wexford CAMHS south in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and up to June 2024; the number of referrals to Wexford CAMHS south not accepted in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and up to June 2024; to provide the number of referrals accepted for Wexford CAMHS north in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and up to June 2024; the number of referrals not accepted; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have reviewed the matter and liaised with the Clinical Director for CAMHS South East and the following is the current position.

Wexford South

Year	Number of Referrals	Number of Referrals Accepted	Number of Referrals Declined
2020	266	156	110
2021	389	135	254
2022	326	94	232
2023	283	78	205
2024 (June)	129	48	81

Wexford North

Year	Number of Referrals	Number of Referrals Accepted	Number of Referrals Declined
2020	310	246	64
2021	395	126	269
2022	316	154	162
2023	394	124	270
2024 (June)	172	81	91

It is acknowledged that there are challenges with CAMHS operations in terms of capacity and difficulties encountered. The Clinical Director outlined that there is ongoing work to address many of the issues highlighted following an earlier Mental Health Commission inspection of CAMHS services.

It is also acknowledged that referrals are being incorrectly directed (outside the national CAMHS Service Operational Guideline) to CAMHS for a number of reasons including difficulties being experienced in wider children's services.

There is a shared consensus across South East CAMHS regarding aspects of many referrals being made to such services. In this regard the Clinical Director with colleagues, has arranged for an audit to be undertaken across South East CAMHS regarding qualitative aspects of referrals being received. The result of such audit should be available in the coming months and will inform further decisions regarding CAMHS triage of future referrals.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely



Ms. Anne Donaghey
Head of Service Mental Health Services