



Ceannasáí Seirbhíse, Meabhairshláinte,
Seirbhís Meabhairshláinte – MLM CHO8

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12th April 2024

Patricia Ryan, TD
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 50014/23

Dear Deputy Ryan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to respond in respect of your recent Parliamentary Question as outlined below:

To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide clarification on why Laois Mental Health Services have not been able to fill the vacant post of psychotherapist; and if he will make a statement on the matter

The following is the response for the CHO8 Mental Health Services:

Laois Adult Mental Health Services do not currently employ psychotherapists to work in the Department of Psychiatry in Portlaoise Hospital.

Psychology services are delivered within the Department of Psychiatry, Portlaoise by psychologists based in the Community Mental Health setting. There are a number of vacant psychology posts, including one in the Portlaoise sector. There is currently a recruitment pause across all grades in the HSE, however local management is endeavouring to advocate for the filling of these posts.

I trust the above is in order. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Martina Lennon

Acting Head of Mental Health Service