

Ceannasai na Seirbhisi Curam Michumais General Manager of Disability Services – Louth Meath

Eaghraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tire An Lú, An Mhí,

Oifig Ceantair, Bóthar Cheanannais, Bhaile Átha Fhirdia, Co. Lú

Midlands Louth Meath Community Healthcare Organisation (MLM CHO) St Brigids Hospital Complex,Ardee, Co.Louth A92 DRN0

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21st May 2024

Deputy Robert Troy, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Re: PQ 16529/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of staff that are working in the speech and language therapy in the HSE in Springfield, Mullingar; to enlist the number of vacancies currently exist in that service; the number of people waiting to access that service; and his plans to address this concern.

Dear Deputy Troy,

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 response. I have examined the matter and outlined the position as follows.

There are currently three (3) WTE Speech and Language Therapist in post in the CDNT Mullingar. There are an additional four (4) WTE Speech and Language vacant posts, these positions are being actively recruited through the HSE Recruitment processes, all posts have been offered out to panels in the past and were unable to fill, these posts have since been offered out again to panels in the last 2 weeks. It is envisaged that these positions will be accepted and filled in the coming weeks and months from national and local panels that are now in place.

There are 150 Children on the Speech and Language wait list at present who are awaiting initial contact from the Speech and Language department. These numbers will reduce considerably once the vacant WTEs have been successfully recruited.

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

Yours sincerely,

Waretta Duff.

Wanetta Duff

General Manager, Disability Services, HSE Midlands