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2nd May 2024

Mr. Johnny Mythen TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 17475/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth to provide an update on the current positions vacant across each section of County Wexford's CDNT; when it is expected vacant positions will be filled in each area; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Mythen,

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 the following is the current position.

Table 1: Current positions vacant across each section of CDNT – Network 8 New Ross

Title	WTE
CDNM	0.7 WTE
Senior Clinical Psychologist	0.4 WTE
Clinical Psychologist	1.0 WTE
Dietitian	1.0 WTE
Speech and Language Therapist	2.0 WTE
Occupational Therapist	1.0 WTE
Clinical Nurse Manager 2	0.8 WTE
Total	6.9 WTE

Table 2: Current positions vacant across each section of CDNT – Network 9 Gorey

Title	WTE
Senior Speech & Language Therapist	1.0 WTE
Senior Physiotherapist	1.0 WTE
Senior Medical Social Worker	1.0 WTE

Senior Dietitian	0.5 WTE
Occupational Therapist	1.0 WTE
Clinical Nurse Manager 2	0.5 WTE
Speech and Language Therapist	1.0 WTE
Team Leader Social Worker	1.0 WTE
Senior Clinical Psychologist	0.8 WTE
Total	7.8 WTE

Table 3: Current positions vacant across each section of CDNT – Network 10 Wexford

Title	WTE
Social Care Leader	1.0 WTE
Speech and Language Therapist	2.5 WTE
Occupational Therapist	1.0 WTE
Senior Medical Social Worker	1.0 WTE
Clinical Nurse Specialist (Community/Primary Care)	0.4 WTE
Senior Dietitian	0.5 WTE
Clinical Nurse Manager 2	0.4 WTE
Total	6.8 WTE

Table 4: Current positions vacant across each section of CDNT – Network 11 Enniscorthy

Title	WTE
Senior Occupational Therapist	3.0 WTE
Assistant Psychologist	1.0 WTE
Senior Speech and Language Therapist	2.0 WTE
Senior Physiotherapist	2.0 WTE
Senior Dietitian	1.5 WTE
Senior Clinical Psychologist	1.0 WTE
Occupational Therapist	2.0 WTE
Clinical Specialist Physiotherapist	1.0 WTE
Physiotherapist	1.0 WTE
Speech and Language Therapist	2.0 WTE
Senior Medical Social Worker	2.0 WTE
Clinical Psychologist	1.0 WTE
Total	20.5 WTE

As with other areas Disability Services within South East Community Healthcare (SECH)/CHO5 are continuing to experience significant recruitment challenges. The HSE is operating in a very competitive market as there are shortages of qualified healthcare professionals nationally and internationally.

To date, HSE CHO5 has taken multiple approaches to try and fill the posts and with consideration to competing internationally to attract staff. In addition to targeted advertising of posts on the HSE

website, HSE CHO5 is currently looking to expand social media footprint to reach out to different groups - outlining benefits of working for the HSE.

HSE CHO5 is targeting schools and colleges to increase candidate pool by making telephone contact with stakeholders' and visiting opening days face to face advertising posts. HSE CHO5 has also linked with local colleges e.g. SETU Waterford requesting increase in places available on relevant courses.

There are rolling recruitment campaigns every six months for senior grade clinicians. HSE HR have attended internationally recruitment events to advertise posts. In February 2024 Disability services have applied for and received a derogation form HSE National office for approval to progress recruitment of essential clinical posts.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Ms. Paula Dwan

General Manager for Children's Disability Services, South East Region