

7th May, 2024

Mr Thomas Gould, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 18615/24

"To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of positions, by role, assigned to CDNT 12, West Central Cork City; the number of vacancies that exist; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth for a response.

Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) have been established to provide services and supports for all children with complex disability needs within a defined geographic area. The Government has prioritised the reinstatement of health and social care supports in special schools. In that regard, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CKCH) is continuing to engage with its CDNT lead agencies to progress this work.

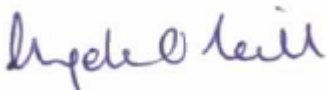
In the appendix to this letter you will find a table which sets out the allocation of posts to West Central Cork CDNT and those which are filled or vacant.

The HSE and its Section 38 and Section 39 Lead Agencies are operating in a very competitive global market for healthcare talent as there are significant shortages of qualified healthcare professionals across the globe. CDNTS services in Cork have an average vacancy rate of 23%, with some CDNTs experiencing higher vacancy rates than others. When maternity leave and other statutory leave is included this rate increases to 32%.

A targeted national recruitment campaign has been undertaken to recruit to CDNT vacancies across the country. Lead agencies in this area are currently finalising the appointment of staff recruited through this campaign.

If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely,



**Ms. Angela O'Neill,
Head of Disability Services,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare.**

Appendix 1

Table 1: Allocation of posts to West Central Cork (CDNT 12) Filled and Vacant.

Grade	WTE Budget	WTE in place	WTE Vacancies
Children's Disability Network Manager	1.00	1.00	0.00
Physiotherapist, Senior	2.00	0	2.00
Physiotherapist	1.50	1.50	0.00
Occupational Therapist, Senior	5.12	4.92	0.20
Occupational Therapist	2.00	2.00	0.00
Speech & Language Therapist, Senior	4.30	3.03	1.27
Speech & Language Therapist	3.00	1.00	2.00
Psychologist, Senior Clinical	2.70	1.60	1.10
Psychologist, Clinical	1.00	0.00	1.00
Social Worker, Senior	2.00	1.80	0.20
Social Worker	1.50	0.80	0.70
Social Care Leader	0.80	0.80	0.00
Clinical Nurse Specialist	0.50	0.00	0.50
Workshop Supervisor/Instructor, Senior	1.00	0.00	1.00
Clerical Officer	1.82	1.82	0.00
Intensive Support Worker	1.00	1.00	0.00
	31.24	21.27	9.97

