

10th June 2024

Minister Niall Collins
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Email: Niall.Collins@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ/20078/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the current staff vacancies in relation to Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy relating to West Limerick Children's Services; what is being planned to reduce the long wait times; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Minister Collins

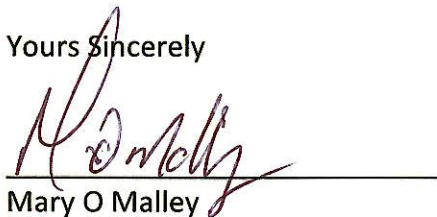
The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

All Occupational Therapy posts in West Limerick Children Services (WLCS) are filled. The team has two Speech and Language Therapy vacancies due to maternity leave. WLCS has received backfill maternity approval for one of these posts which they anticipate will be filled this month (June 2024). Unfortunately, they have been unable to recruit a backfill for the second maternity leave post, despite advertising through national forums and reviewing existing national HSE panels.

Waitlists are continually reviewed and updated in line with national policy.

I trust this clarifies the situation but should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely



Mary O Malley
Head of Service
Mid-West Disability Services
HSE Mid-West Community Healthcare