



Oifig na Seirbhísí Sláinte Meabhrach  
Cúram Sláinte Pobail Corcaigh & Ciarraí

Teach Caha, Párc Ghnó & Teicneolaíochta,  
Bóthar na Modh Feirme, Corcaigh, T12 XHT4

Office of Mental Health Service  
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare

Caha House, Business & Technology  
Park, Model Farm Road, Cork,  
T12 XHT4

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[@hselive](https://twitter.com/hselive)

T 021-4868268

E [Deborah.harrington@hse.ie](mailto:Deborah.harrington@hse.ie)

14<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Deputy Holly Cairns,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 45286/24**

**“To ask the Minister for Health for an update on the provision of dietetics service to Cork south and west child and adolescent mental health service teams; if there is a plan to provide access to a dietetics team on a full-time basis; and if so, when this will be put in place.”**

Dear Deputy Cairns,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for the Minister for Health for a response.

For various reasons, the number of Dieticians working across the CAMHS service in Cork & Kerry has decreased significantly in recent times. Difficulties with recruitment across the HSE have compounded the issues in relation to the CAMHS Dietetics service.

The CAMHS teams continue to work with families and relevant HSE colleagues to explore interim access pathways as well as in some cases funding options to support the provision of Dietetics services privately for those under the care of CAMHS. It is difficult to give a timeline of when these posts will be filled. The service has identified the areas of highest priority and is working to fill these posts as soon as possible.

We understand the impact that vacant posts are having on service user experience and appreciate the stress and difficulty this is causing young people and their families at present. We endeavor to provide the highest quality care, and best service user experience across the service with the resources available to us, and we will continue to do so.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

**Deborah Harrington**  
**A/Head of Service**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**