

20th September, 2024

Ms. Holly Cairns, T.D.,
 Dáil Éireann,
 Dublin 2

PQ ref 35070/24

“To ask the Minister for Health number of additional psychology staff, per grade, the Department is committing to recruiting to address the crisis in Primary Care psychology waiting lists in CHO4, and when he expects the recruitment drive to commence.

Dear Deputy Cairns,

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 Health for response.

Psychology Vacancies Cork Kerry Community Healthcare:

	Senior Psychologist WTE	Staff Grade Psychologist WTE	Assistant Psychologist WTE	Maternity Leaves WTE
Kerry	1	1 arising in 2024	1.4 of which 0.6 arises in 2024	
West Cork		1 arising in 2024		
South Lee		2	5 of which 2 arise in 2024	
North lee South Lee combined	1	1 pre 2024		
North Lee	0.2	1.6	4	1 due to return in September 2024
North Cork	0	1	1 due to resign in September 2024	
Short Term Waitlist Initiatives N Lee & S Lee		2 pre 2024		
Maternity Leaves	1	arising in 2024		

The above table lists the vacancies in primary care psychology at 20th September, 2024.

The senior management team Cork Kerry Community Healthcare are presently engaged in an exercise to consolidate recruitment approvals across the psychology staffing in the CHO to commence populating an integrated stepped care model comprehensive of the continuum of care needs within Primary Care and CAMHS.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mari O'Donovan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Mari O'Donovan
Acting Head of Service - Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare