



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Social Care
South East Community Healthcare
c/o Community Care Headquarters
James' Green
Kilkenny

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19th December, 2019

Ms. Mary Butler T.D.
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 51599-19

To ask the Minister for Health further to Parliamentary Question No. 310 of 19 November 2019, if Brothers of Charity, Waterford, will continue to provide services for children at St. Martins school, Waterford; if not, the person or body that will be providing the service if it discontinues; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Butler

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.

Brothers of Charity (BOC) had been providing psychology support to the school and other children services in Waterford, 1 day per week (0.2 WTE). Following the resignation of staff member who was filling this role, the BOC were unable to recruit a staff member in to the position for various reasons and that coupled with the reconfiguration of children's services, the HSE agreed 0.2 Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) should be retained by BOC and transferred into adult services.

As part of the 2019 service plan the children disability service (assessment of need) were allocated 15 x therapeutic posts, Waterford have been assigned both a psychologist and speech and language therapist and are in the process of recruiting.

The disability team has submitted all relevant paperwork to fill all other vacancies for therapy staff and these are currently in the HSE recruitment process. However as you are aware the disability service must operate within its annual funding allocation and not exceed this limit.

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

Yours sincerely,

Patricia McEvoy
General Manager, Disability Service-South East Community Healthcare