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Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

25<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Niamh Smyth  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 20204/19: To ask the Minister for Health the number of vacant posts in whole-time equivalent terms in the CAMHS by CHO in tabular form -Niamh Smyth**

Dear Deputy Smyth,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The availability of skilled staff is a significant issue in mental health services where demand outstrips supply in both the national and international contexts and our workforce (particularly younger staff) are availing of employment opportunities outside of Ireland. This is symptomatic of the overall recruitment problem that Mental Health services have been experiencing for the past number of years.

A number of posts may be covered by agency staff or overtime, or a combination of both at a particular point in time. Mental Health Services does not currently collect overall national data on locum/temporary positions filled by agency/overtime.

Table hereunder outlines the current staffing situation as against the staffing outlined by Vision for Change.

CAMHS WTEs	Population 0-18 years	Administrative Support Staff	Child/Social Care Worker	Clinical Psychologist	Consultant Psychiatrist	Nurse	Occupational Therapist	Other Staff	Other Therapist	Registrar/SHO	Senior Registrar	Social Worker	Speech & Language Therapist	Total	Total Clinical	VFC Total	VFC Clinical
<b>National Total</b>	<b>1,190,502</b>	<b>96.0</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>77.7</b>	<b>71.7</b>	<b>114.9</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>78.5</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>89.6</b>	<b>50.5</b>	<b>739.4</b>	<b>643.4</b>	<b>59.7%</b>	<b>61.4%</b>
CHO 1	103,778	10.9	3.8	6.4	7.1	13.9	4.0	0.0	0.0	6.5	4.0	9.6	4.0	70.2	59.3	65.0%	64.9%
CHO 2	111,880	10.4	1.9	6.4	7.3	10.5	2.8	1.4	0.5	7.0	2.8	8.2	5.2	64.4	54.0	55.3%	54.8%
CHO 3	96,266	6.0	3.0	6.0	5.8	13.9	5.0	0.0	0.0	7.3	5.0	9.6	1.0	62.6	56.6	62.5%	66.8%
CHO 4	168,542	14.0	4.8	14.7	7.8	10.9	10.6	0.5	1.3	8.8	10.6	17.9	11.4	113.3	99.3	64.6%	67.0%
CHO 5	131,522	10.6	2.8	7.0	5.4	11.2	6.6	1.5	0.5	4.0	6.6	4.9	4.3	65.4	54.8	47.8%	47.3%
CHO 6	116,264	12.3	2.0	9.3	6.5	13.3	6.3	0.0	0.5	8.6	6.3	8.9	8.9	82.9	70.6	68.6%	69.0%
CHO 7	144,296	10.2	8.9	8.0	9.9	12.7	5.5	0.0	0.0	9.8	5.5	9.6	3.7	83.8	73.6	55.8%	58.0%
CHO 8	172,373	13.4	8.0	4.8	10.6	17.0	8.3	0.0	4.9	13.0	8.3	10.6	3.1	102.0	88.6	56.9%	58.4%
CHO 9	145,581	8.2	0.0	15.1	11.3	11.5	7.8	0.0	0.4	13.5	7.8	10.3	8.9	94.8	86.6	62.6%	67.6%

There are currently 63 Development and 178 replacement posts for CAMHS at varying stages of the recruitment process with the HSE National Recruitment Service . Similarly, there are widely acknowledged difficulties in recruiting and retaining specialist CAMHS staff, particularly Consultant Psychiatrists. Recruitment efforts continue, including local and international advertising

Please see below table which outlines the CAMHS consultant posts which appear vacant/unmatched on the national Doctors Integrated E-management System in WTE format. It is not currently possible on DIME to distinguish between Vacant and Unmatched posts. The ability to identify Consultant vacancies on DIME versus unmatched Consultant posts is due to be rolled out soon.

CHO	CAMHS consultant Posts Vacant/Unmatched (WTE)
CHO 1	2
CHO 4	2.5
CHO 5	2
CHO 6	3.5
CHO 8	0.5
CHO 9	2
National Forensic Mental Health Service	1

This data is taken from our national Doctors Integrated E-management System (DIME) and as such is dependent on Hospital Groups/CHOs inputting details on their consultant workforce. This database has recently been introduced and the data matching exercise is not currently 100% completed, and as such there may be variances and gaps in the data supplied to that held within hospitals/CHOs.

*Theresa Heller*

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