

5th March 2021

Deputy Thomas Gould,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref no: 9822/21

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons employed in CAMHS on the northside of Cork city; the number that should be employed; and the number of vacancies waiting to be filled.”

Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above extensive list of Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

CAMHS services are designed for children and adolescents presenting with moderate to severe mental health disorders. A Vision for change provides the following recommendations for human resource / manpower in Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services across Ireland.

Two child and adolescent CMHTs should be established for each sector of 100,000 populations. Individual teams and should comprise the following:

- one consultant psychiatrist
- one doctor in training
- two psychiatric nurses
- two clinical psychologists
- two social workers
- one occupational therapist
- one speech and language therapist
- one child care worker
- two administrative staff.

One additional team per catchment area of 300,000 population should also be provided, to provide liaison cover to paediatric, general hospitals and maternity units in their area.

For the purpose of your query, there are four CAMHS sector based mental health teams in the north side of Cork city. These comprise of: Cork North, North Lee North, North Lee East and North Lee West CAMHS teams. Each team comprises the following disciplines: Consultant Psychiatrists, NCHD's, Nursing Staff, Clinical Psychologists, Speech & Language Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Social Workers, Social Care Workers and Administration staff.

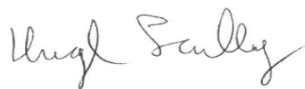
All funded posts require approval from the National Division and I wish to confirm the following is the staffing assigned to each of these teams.

	Cork North	North Lee North	North Lee East	North West	Lee
CAMHS Consultant Psychiatrist	1wte	1wte	1wte	1wte	
NCHD	1wte	2wte	2wte	2wte	
Psychiatric Nurse	1wte	1wte	1.5wte	1.5wte	
Clinical Psychologist	2.8wte	2wte	2wte	2wte	
Social Worker	2wte	2wte	2wte	2wte	(0.4 unfilled vacancy)
Occupational Therapist	1.67wte	1wte	1.8wte	1.8wte	
Speech & Language Therapist	2wte	1wte	1.3wte	1wte	
Child Care Worker	1wte	1wte	1wte	2.5wte	
Dietician	0.5wte	0.5wte	0.5wte	0.5wte	
Administration	1wte	1wte	2wte	1wte	

*WTE = whole time equivalent.

As can be seen from above table, staffing levels across these child and adolescent community mental health teams are in line with and in some instances are above Vision for Change recommendations.

Kind regards,



Mr Hugh Scully
A/ General Manager
Mental Health Services
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare