



Ceannasaí Seirbhíse do
Dhaoine Faoi Mhíchumas

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6th May 2022

Mr David Cullinane TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Email: david.cullinane@oireachtas.ie

PQ Ref 20904/22 'To ask the Minister for Health the current staffing vacancies within the children's disability network teams in Kilbarrack, Coolock, Swords and Blanchardstown, Dublin; and if he will make a statement on the matter.' **David Cullinane TD**

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you with information in the context of the above Representation which you submitted for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNT) were established in Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County (CHO DNCC) on 20th September 2021. It is a very significant change programme with a new model of service which focuses on outcomes for children and families rather than inputs.

As requested the following is a breakdown of the current staffing vacancies within the following CDNTs:

CDNT	Number of Vacancies (Whole Time Equivalent-WTE)
Kilbarrack (SMH)	7 WTE
Coolock (SMH)	4.7 WTE
Swords (CRC)	7.5 WTE
Blanchardstown (Avista)	2 WTE

CHO DNCC and the Lead Agencies responsible for the delivery of Children's Disability Network Services (Avista, St. Michael's House, and Central Remedial Clinical) are continuously working to fill the vacancies in our CDNTs. Multiple campaigns, open days and job fairs have yet to achieve this objective in the very competitive employment market we're experiencing at present. Unfortunately, there are simply not enough suitably qualified candidates available. Presently, while agreement for resourcing has increased, too few people are available to provide the services so desperately needed. There is no short-term fix, we must substantially increase the numbers in training to provide the needed level of service.

I assure you that we are continuing to work towards improved access to services with a focus on rolling out universal and targeted care pathways for children and families.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Olive Hanley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Ms Olive Hanley
Head of Service for Disability