



Oifig an Stiúrtóra Cúnta Náisiúnta
Clár Cúraim Pobail Feabhsaithe &
Conarthaí Príomhchúraim
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
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Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Dublin 2.

26th August 2022

PQ Ref PQ39395/22 -To ask the Minister for Health the total number of community healthcare networks in place; the total number of funded whole-time equivalent staff positions assigned to community healthcare networks in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter

PQ Ref PQ39396/22- To ask the Minister for Health the total number of funded but vacant positions in community healthcare networks broken down by each network; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

In late 2019, the HSE developed and set out a new blueprint for investment in community health and social care provision. This 'Enhanced Community Care (ECC) Model' defined core service areas for investment in key services in community settings, including: the roll out of 96 Community Healthcare Networks (CHNs). CHNs provide the foundation and organisation structure through which integrated care is delivered locally at the appropriate level of complexity, with GPs, HSCPs, nursing leadership and staff, empowered at a local level to drive integrated care delivery and supporting egress in the community.

In response to your query regarding the the total number of community healthcare networks in place; 87 of 96 CHNs are operational. A breakdown of the operational CHNs are included in the Table 1 below:



CHO	CHN Teams Target	Operational
CHO 1	8	8
CHO 2	9	8
CHO 3	8	6
CHO 4	14	14
CHO 5	11	6
CHO 6	8	8
CHO 7	14	13
CHO 8	12	12
CHO 9	12	12
Total	96	87

Table 1. Operational Community Healthcare Networks

As part of the overall ECC programme allocation of 3,500 additional WTE's 1,760 additional WTE allocated for the establishment of the CHNs. A table summarizing the required WTE for the CHNs is included in *Table 2* below:-

Community Healthcare Networks (96 CHNs)				
	Role	Target	Onboarded/ At Advanced Recruitment Stage	WTE (remaining to be filled)
Key Leadership Roles	CHN Managers	96	92	4
	GP Leads	96	53	43
	ADPHNs	96	92	4
	*Other Roles	1472	1145	327
	Total	1,760	1,445	378

*Other roles, as listed in the table above, include the following WTE;

- 329 Health and Social Care Professionals such as Speech and Language Therapists, Dietitians, Chiropodists/Podiatrists, Social Workers, Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists
- 92 nursing staff such as Public Health Nurses and Community Registered General Nurses
- 52 management and administration roles such as Health Promotion and Improvement Officers



There is a continued focus on domestic and international recruitment campaigns to recruit at pace to recruit the remaining 378 WTE.

I trust the above information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Crowley', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Geraldine Crowley,
Assistant National Director,
Enhanced Community Care Programme &
Primary Care Contracts**