

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2022

Deputy Michael Healy Rae  
Dáil Éireann  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 30355/22**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if a new post (details supplied) will be filled in County Kerry; and if he will make a statement on the matter..”**

**Details supplied: “Minister in July 2022 a Psychiatrist who is based in Killarney, Co Kerry and covering the South Kerry area will leave their post. This service is very important to the people of Kerry and it is vital that it would be filled as soon as possible.”**

Dear Deputy Healy Rae,

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 can confirm that the Consultant Psychiatrist post mentioned in your query will be vacated in July 2022. Since Management were advised of this the vacating of this post, ongoing efforts have been and are being made to recruit a General Adult Consultant Psychiatrist to cover this position. This includes a HSE recruitment campaign and Management are also engaging with agencies both within and outside of the National Agency Framework in an effort to cover the post in an interim capacity. Unfortunately to date these efforts have proved unsuccessful.

Management within Kerry Mental Health Services are working with the Killarney and South Kerry Community Mental Health Teams to put contingency cover arrangements in place to ensure a safe service for both service users and staff until such time as a Consultant Psychiatrist is recruited.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Kind Regards,



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**Mr Kevin Morrison**  
**A/Head of Service**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**