

Oifig an Ceannaire Seirbhíse Seirbhísí Meabhairshláinte an Mheán Iarthair Cúram Sláinte Phobail FSS an Mheán Iarthair Elmhurst Ospidéal Naomh Iosaef Sráid Mulgrave Luimneach V94 C8DV Teil: 061 461435/061 461313

Office of Head of Service
HSE Mid West Community Healthcare
Mid-West Mental Health Services
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Mr Joe Carey TD 3-9 Francis Street Lifford Ennis Co Clare V95 Y421

7th July 2022

Re: PQ ref 34421/22 "To ask the Minister for Health the levels of psychologist services that are available in north and west County Clare; if there are any plans to improve the service; and if he will make a statement on the."

Dear Mr Carey,

Thank you for your recent correspondence in relation to Psychology services in Co Clare.

Child & Adolescent Services in Clare

Under Vision for change the Clare CAMHS service should have 4 WTE psychologists working as part of their CAMHS teams and currently this requirement is met with 2 senior psychologists and 2 staff grade psychologists employed in the service. There are significant waiting lists for the CAMHS service, and currently we have 75% of the allocated posts filled. As Psychology is a difficult profession to recruit due to a short supply of output from the training programmes, every effort is being made to fill the posts through national and local recruitment

Adult Mental Services

There has been a Senior Psychologist appointed to West Clare (Kilrush) in the 1st Week of June 2022. There are 2 local competitions scheduled for early August to address the vacancy in the North Clare (Lisdoonvarna) area

Primary Care

Primary Care Child & Adolescent Psychological services have 1 WTE Senior Psychologist and 4 WTE Staff Grade Psychologist with a remit for Co. Clare. Appointments are facilitated in Ennistymon and Kilrush as required and there are close links with local services to provide joint work as necessary.

Disabilities

I wish to advise that there are 5.1 WTE Psychologists attached to the Clare Children's Disability Network Team providing psychology services in Co. Clare.

I trust this answers your queries, please feel free to contact me if you require further information.

Yours sincerely,

Nuala Kelly

Head of Service

Mid-West Mental Health Services