

21st March 2022

Mr Michael Healy-Rae,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 12174/22

“To ask the Minister for Health the steps that are being taken to rectify the situation in north County Kerry in which the KIDS team is down to one occupational therapist; if the matter will be rectified given the large case load; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Healy-Rae,

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for response.

It is the objective of the CDNTs to ensure that all children have timely access to the appropriate services. Challenges include higher than predicted caseloads on each CDNT, restraints due to Covid as well as finite and limited publicly funded resources assigned to each network. The HSE and the Lead Agencies managing the CDNTs remain committed to ensure a safe, quality and timely service to children with disability and their families.

In relation to Occupational Therapy posts on the North Kerry Childrens Disability Network Team; the team has an allocation of 3.00 WTE. Currently, there are a number vacancies on the team due to statutory leave. A recruitment process is underway to backfill these posts.

I trust this clarifies the situation for you.

Yours sincerely,



Ms. Majella Daly,
Head of Disability Services,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare