

7<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Mr. Johnny Mythen T.D.  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ 16450/22**

To ask the Minister for Health the number of vacancies that currently exist in County Wexford across psychiatry, psychology, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, counselling and psychotherapy and mental health nursing by job title in tabular form; the number of positions across these disciplines that are currently fulfilled by locum or agency staff; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**PQ 16451/22**

To ask the Minister for Health the number of professionals that have left psychiatry, psychology, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, counselling and psychotherapy and mental health nursing in County Wexford in the past two years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

**P 16452/22**

To ask the Minister for Health the number of professionals that have retired from psychiatry, psychology, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, counselling and psychotherapy and mental health nursing in County Wexford in the past two years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Mythen,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which were submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

*I have reviewed this matter and the following composite reply is the current position.*

**Table 1: Vacant Posts by Discipline and Agency**

Discipline	No. of Vacancies	Filled by Locum/Agency
Psychiatry - Consultants NCHDs*	4.6 2	2
Psychology	0	
Speech & Language Therapy	0	
Occupational Therapy	0	
Counselling and Psychotherapy	0	
Nursing	27	27

**Table 2: Numbers that have left posts**

<b>Discipline</b>	<b>No.</b>
Psychiatry	9 (8 NCHD 1* Registrar)
Psychology	0
Speech & Language Therapy	0
Occupational Therapy	0
Counselling and Psychotherapy	0
Nursing	8

With reference to Tables above:

\*Non Consultant Hospital Doctors (NCHD's leave as they rotate and move on every 6/12 months).

**Table 3: Numbers who have Retired**


Psychiatry	0
Psychology	0
Speech & Language Therapy	0
Occupational Therapy	0
Counselling and Psychotherapy	NA
Nursing	7

Vacancy levels fluctuate throughout the year as a result of creation of new posts, retirement, maternity leave, career breaks, promotion and staff leaving to take up positions elsewhere.

Vacant posts have been expressed out for filling through the National Panel, to date no candidates have accepted these posts. In addition we have also liaised with locum agencies in order to fill vacancies on a temporary basis pending permanent filling.

I trust that this clarifies the position.

Yours sincerely,



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**David Heffernan**  
**Head of Mental Health Services,**  
**South East Community Healthcare**