



17th October 2022

Ms. Verona Murphy TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 48652/22

To ask the Minister for Health the current number of vacancies within the children's disability network services in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

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

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

I can confirm that SECH CHO 5 secured funding for 26 new posts across the CDNTs in the National Service Plan 2022. The HSE are actively recruiting to fill these posts along with trying to fill current vacancies which will enable teams to increase the provision of assessment and intervention. Senior Speech and Language Therapy interviews were scheduled for September 2022. A SECH/National panel has been formed for Occupational Therapy with a national supplementary campaign underway and a Senior Physiotherapy panel was formed in July 2022. A Staff Grade Physiotherapy national panel is underway. A Senior Psychology/Staff Grade Psychology national panel is now in place.

The table below outlines the information with regards to vacancies - please note that these figures are subject to change.

Wexford CDNT Vacancies as of 09/10/2022				
Professional	New Ross	Wexford	Enniscorthy	Gorey
Occupational Therapist		1	1	1
Speech & Language Therapist	1	1	2	
Psychologist		1	1	2
Nursing	0.8	0.8		0.5
Dietetics	1	0.5	1.5	0.5
Physiotherapy			1	1
Administration				0.54
Social Work		1	1	
Totals	2.8	5.3	7.5	5.54



In the meantime, the Children's Disability Network Managers are also exploring different ways to offer support to children and families currently waiting to access services. This includes developing webinars, group based workshops, information sessions and the development of a repository of resources for children and their families to promote and enable wellbeing at home.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Anne Ennis
Head of Service, Disability Service
South East Community Healthcare