



20th April 2023

Ms. Verona Murphy TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 18521/23

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the current vacancies within the children's disability network teams in New Ross, 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.

The approved staffing for CDNT – Network 8 New Ross is 11.05 WTE. The current vacancies for CDNT – Network 8 are as follows:

Vacant Posts	WTE
Senior Social Worker	1.00
Psychologist	1.00
Clinical Nurse Manager 2	0.80
Dietician	1.00
Children's Disability Network Manag	0.75
Speech and Language Therapist	2.00

As with other areas Disability Services within South East Community Healthcare (SECH) are continuing to experience significant recruitment challenges. The HSE is operating in a very competitive market as there are significant shortages of qualified healthcare professionals nationally and internationally.



South East Community Healthcare continues to express posts out to current national panels and continues to prioritise local recruitment campaigns.

The HSE acknowledge that waiting times for CDNT service at this time are particularly stressful for children and their families, and will continue to explore a range of options to enhance the recruitment and retention of essential staff into our CDNTs.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anne Ennis', positioned above a horizontal line.

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