



24th January 2023

Mr. Michael Lowry TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 2485/23

To ask the Minister for Health the number of whole-time equivalent positions allocated to the children's disability network team in Cashel; the number of those positions vacant and the number of children attached to the team as of 31 December 2022; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Lowry,

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.

No. of Staff WTE as of 31st December 2022	15.2
No. of Staff WTE in post as of 31st December 2022	11.2
No. of children attached to the team as of 31st December 2022	408

As with other areas Disability Services within South East Community Healthcare are experiencing significant recruitment challenges. SECH continues to express posts out to current national panels and continues to prioritise local recruitment campaigns.

The HSE have also commenced an international recruitment campaign for therapy staff and it is hoped that we will be in a position to fill more vacancies from this process. The interviews are scheduled to take place in the coming weeks.

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