

13<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Deputy Thomas Gould,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 4531/23**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide an update on staffing at a facility (details supplied); and whether there will be a reduction in bed numbers in the facility”**

**Details Supplied: Éist Linn**

Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for the Minister for Health for a response.

Éist Linn is a Child and Adolescent Mental Health Inpatient Unit for young people aged 13 to 17 years of age. It consists of an inpatient unit and dedicated adjoined school. The referral pathway is through the Community CAMHS team and the catchment area includes the counties Cork, Kerry, Waterford, South Tipperary, Carlow, Kilkenny and Wexford.

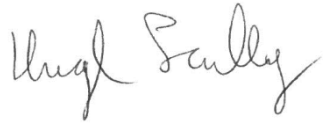
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) staffing and recruitment is impacted by the current shortage of trained Mental Health staff nationally - a trend which is not unique to Ireland. Please see table below in relation to current staffing on the unit:

| <b>Discipline</b>             | <b>WTE allocated</b> | <b>WTE at present</b> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Consultant                    | 2                    | 2                     |
| NCHD                          | 3                    | 2                     |
| Area Director Of Nursing      | 1                    | 1                     |
| Assistant Director of Nursing | 1                    | 1                     |
| CNM3                          | 1                    | 1                     |
| CNS                           | 2                    | 2                     |
| CNM2                          | 4                    | 3                     |
| Staff Nurse                   | 26                   | 15                    |
| SLT                           | .4                   | .4                    |
| Social Worker                 | 2                    | 1.6                   |
| Psychologist                  | 2                    | 1                     |
| Occupational Therapist        | 1                    | .8                    |
| Admin Staff                   | 2.6                  | 2                     |
| Multi Task Attendants         | 5                    | 3                     |
| Teacher                       | 2                    | 2                     |
| School Principal              | 1                    | 1                     |

With regard to covering these vacancies, all options remain under consideration at this time to include potential redeployment from other services to Éist Linn, to increase the usage of overtime and agency where available etc. Service Management have also engaged with their colleagues across the CHOs to exhaust all avenues to secure additional staffing for Éist Linn. It is important to note there is no indication to reduce bed numbers as the bed occupancy within the unit has not been impacted by these vacancies at this time

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised.

Kind regards,



**Mr. Hugh Scully**  
**A/General Manager**  
**Mental Health Services**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**