

4<sup>th</sup> July, 2023

Mr Denis Naughten, TD.,  
 Dáil Éireann,  
 Dublin 2

**PQ ref 29348/23**

**“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of vacant roles in occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and psychology broken down by discipline in each CDNT in CHO4; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”**

Dear Deputy Naughten,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for response.

Recruitment for Children’s Disability Network Teams is ongoing by the lead agencies (COPE, Enable Ireland, CoAction, Brothers of Charity, and St. Josephs Foundation) who hold their own recruitment process for all of their vacancies. Vacant posts are at various stages in the recruitment process – advertisement, interview, job offer or in some cases recruitment has been completed. Every effort is being made to recruit staff to these vacant posts including recruitment abroad initiatives.

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CKCH) continues to offer employment opportunities post training for graduates that have been with us on placement. Using Time Related savings, an offer of financial support for four final year psychology students was made available, with an offer of a post on completion of their training. While we had panelled a number of interested students, two have taken up the offer. We are also reconfiguring posts to higher grades to attract staff (using Time Related Savings).

The following table provides a breakdown of vacant posts within Children’s Disability Network Teams, CKCH at present.

Children's Disability Network Team	Occupational Therapy - Vacant WTEs	Physiotherapy - Vacant WTEs	Speech & Language Therapy - Vacant WTEs	Psychology - Vacant WTEs
CDNT1	0	0	0	0
CDNT2	0.41	0	0	0.61
CDNT3	1.50	0	1.50	0
CDNT4	1.90	1.90	1.35	2.00
CDNT5	0.40	1.40	1.00	1.00
CDNT6	0	1.00	0.60	0

CDNT7	4.00	1.00	2.52	0
CDNT8	2.00	2.00	1.00	0.50
CDNT9	0	0	1.00	0
CDNT10	1.38	0.50	0	1.20
CDNT11	2.00	0	1.96	1.00
CDNT12	0	0	1.20	0
CDNT13	1.00	0.98	1.00	2.00
CDNT14	2.50	1.50	2.00	2.50
<b>Total WTEs Vacant</b>	<b>17.09</b>	<b>10.28</b>	<b>15.13</b>	<b>10.81</b>

If I can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely




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**Ms. Patricia O'Neill,  
A/ Head of Disability Services,  
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare.**