



22nd June 2023

Mr. Denis Naughten TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 29349/23

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 CHO5; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Naughten,

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 following tables sets out the current number (noting this is subject to change) of vacant Therapy Roles in each CDNT in CHO5:

Occupational Therapy

CDNT	Vacancies WTE
CDNT – Network 1 Carlow	5.5
CDNT – Network 4 Cashel	3.0
CDNT – Network 5 Clonmel	1.0
CDNT – Network 6 Dungarvan	4.0
CDNT – Network 10 Wexford	1.0
CDNT – Network 11 Enniscorthy	1.0
CDNT – Network 7 North City Waterford	1.0
Total	16.5

Speech and Language Therapy

CDNT	Vacancies WTE
CDNT – Network 1 Carlow	4.1
CDNT – Network 4 Cashel	4.7
CDNT – Network 5 Clonmel	2.0
CDNT – Network 6 Dungarvan	2.0
CDNT – Network 7 North City Waterford	3.0



CDNT – Network 7 South City Waterford	0.5
CDNT – Network 8 New Ross	2.0
CDNT – Network 9 Gorey	3.0
CDNT – Network 10 Wexford	1.5
CDNT – Network 11 Enniscorthy	2.0
Total	24.8

Physiotherapy

CDNT	Vacancies - WTE
CDNT – Network 1 Carlow	1.0
CDNT – Network 4 Cashel	3.0
CDNT – Network 5 Clonmel	2.0
CDNT – Network 6 Dungarvan	1.0
CDNT – Network 9 Gorey	1.0
CDNT – Network 11 Enniscorthy	2.0
Total	10.0

Psychology

CDNT	Vacancies - WTE
CDNT – Network 1 Carlow	3.5
CDNT – Network 4 Cashel	1.5
CDNT – Network 5 Clonmel	1.0
CDNT – Network 6 Dungarvan	1.0
CDNT – Network 7 South City Waterford	1.0
CDNT – Network 7 North City Waterford	2.8
CDNT – Network 9 Gorey	1.8
CDNT – Network 11 Enniscorthy	1.5
Total	14.1

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 prioritise local competitions for all disciplines and continues to express posts out to current national panels where relevant.

The HSE acknowledges that waiting times for CDNT service as this time are 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 black ink, appearing to read 'Karen Fitzgerald', written in a cursive style.

Karen Fitzgerald
A/Head of Service – Disability Services
South East Community Healthcare