



Ceannasaí Seirbhíse do
Dhaoine Faoi Mhíchumas

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29th February 2024

Ms Claire Kerrane, TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Email: claire.kerrane@oireachtas.ie

PQ 9303/24 *“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of current vacancies in children's disability network teams area 9; and the number of current vacancies due to absence; and if he will make a statement on the matter”.* **Claire Kerrane, TD**

Dear Deputy Kerrane,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you with information in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNT) are managed by the Lead Agencies; Central Remedial Clinic (CRC), Avista, St Michael's House (SMH) and HSE. The CDNTs are experiencing a number of challenges, in particular recruitment and retention of key health services staff including psychologists, speech and language therapists, occupational therapists, dieticians and physiotherapists among others. Unfortunately, there are more positions vacant than qualified staff available nationally and internationally.

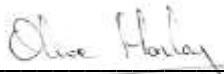
CHO DNCC Disability Services in conjunction with all lead agencies in the area continue to try and increase capacity within our CDNTs. There are ongoing local and international recruitment campaigns for all staff grades. Coupled with this Disability Services CHO DNCC endeavour to identify any additional capacity for assessments that may be available within the private market.

The following table provides an overview of vacant therapist and management and administration roles in each team. The figures provided are Whole Time Equivalent (WTE).

CDNT Network	Number of staff WTE allocation WTE at end of January 2024	Number of staff WTE in position at end of January 2024	Number of vacant positions WTE at end of January 2024
Balbriggan	30.28	19.40	10.88
Swords	28.89	17.00	11.89
Coastal	20.30	15.18	5.12
Coolock	16.85	13.35	3.5
Kilbarrack	27.20	19.10	8.1
Finglas	24.36	17.36	7
NIC	16.92	13.00	3.92
Ballymun	18.21	16.41	1.8
Cabra & Grangeegorman	29.60	23.40	6.2
Clontarf	22.70	15.33	7.37
Blanchardstown	23.09	19.59	3.5
Blakestown	27.35	19.10	8.25
Total	285.75	208.22	77.53

I trust this information clarifies this matter for you.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Olive Hanley
Head of Service for Disability