



Oifig an Ceannaire Seirbhíse
Seirbhísí Meabhairshláinte an Mheán Iarthair
Cúram Sláinte Phobail FSS an Mheán Iarthair
Elmhurst
Ospidéal Naomh Iosaef
Sráid Mulgrave
Luimneach
V94 C8DV
Teil: 061 461435/061 461313

Office of Head of Service
HSE Mid-West Community Healthcare
Mid-West Mental Health Services
Elmhurst
St. Joseph's Hospital
Mulgrave Street
Limerick
V94 C8DV
Tel: 061 461435/061 461313

Deputy Michael Lowry
Abbey Road
Thurles
Co Tipperary

06 June 2024

PQ ref 22462/24: “To ask the Minister for Health to provide an update on the current situation at the child and adolescent mental health services at Nenagh Health an Centre, County Tipperary, where there is currently no occupational therapist is in place (the absence of an occupational therapist means that children attending the service are unable to access this vital resource;; having an occupational therapist in place is of utmost importance for the full functioning of the service and for the well-being of the children who rely on it; the urgency of having an occupational therapist appointed and available as soon as possible in CAMHS at Nenagh Health Centre, cannot be underestimated); the status of the recruitment process for this position; and if he will make a statement on the matter”.

Dear Deputy Lowry,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above representation, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The Midwest Mental Health Services acknowledges the importance of Occupational Therapy for children attending CAMHS Services. This Occupational Therapist post was advertised throughout 2022 and 2023 but without success. In an effort to increase potential recruitment, the MWMHS upgraded this post to a Senior Occupational Therapist position in October 2022; however, despite active recruitment campaigns over Q1 and Q2 of 2023, this post remained vacant. From Sept 2023 to present, recruitment into this post has been subject to the HSE Recruitment controls.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nuala Kelly", is written over a horizontal line.

Nuala Kelly
Head of Service - Mental Health Service,
Mid-West Community Healthcare