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Deputy Brendan Smith
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

7th October 2024

Re: PQ 35575/24

To ask the Minister for Health when additional staff will be recruited for CAMHS in the Cavan, Monaghan and Meath areas; if he will ensure that recruitment makes provision for additional staff, not just replacement of persons who have retired or left the services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Brendan Smith

Dear Deputy Smith

I refer to your recent correspondence in relation to the above received to this office on 24th September 2024. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position of CAMHS recruitment within Cavan Monaghan Mental Health Service (CMMHS).

Cavan Monaghan Mental Health Services CAMHS received the following new Service Development posts allocated under the 2024 National Service Plan which are currently being progressed through our HR department for recruitment -

- 1 wte Assistant Director of Nursing (CAMHS)
- 1 wte Grade V11 (CAMHS)

HSE CEO Memo 11942 dated 16th July 2024 sets out an immediate requirement for the HSE from the Government and the HSE Board, to ensure that the appropriate control mechanisms are in place in respect of Pay & Numbers (PNS) Strategy and financial control limits to end 2024 and into 2025.

Each Regional Executive Officer (REO) Area including Dublin & North East Area which includes Cavan Monaghan Mental Health Services have been provided with its own specified number of Whole Time Equivalent (WTEs) allocation. Within that approved WTE and related total pay spend limit, the REO only has the authority to replace, recruit and prioritise posts.

All service areas within Mental Health are covered within the HSE Controls Environment / Pay & Numbers Strategy. Cavan Monaghan CAMHS service have the following current vacancies-

- 1 WTE Senior Psychologist
- 1 WTE Clinical Nurse Specialist (undergoing recruitment through HR at present)
- 1.5 WTE Social Worker (1 wte undergoing recruitment through HR at present)
- 1 Dietician

CMMHS CAMHS have recently recruited 1wte Social Care Leader (replacement post following resignation) in July 2024.

Cavan Monaghan MHS would welcome any additional resources that may become available and it is a service priority to fill any vacant posts as soon as possible in line with HSE Controls Environment / Pay & Numbers Strategy.

I hope the above information will be of some assistance, however should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Pauline Ackermann
General Manager
Mental Health Services