



25th February 2025

Deputy Liam Quaide,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 2592/25

“To ask the Minister for Health if she will provide a breakdown of eating disorders services, including regional team staffing levels and inpatient bed numbers, in the south west regional health area, in tabular form; and how this provision corresponds to or falls short of the HSE's Model of Care for Eating Disorder Services.”

Dear Deputy Quaide,

The Health Service Executive have been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted for the Minister for Health for a response and the following outlines the position.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

| NCPED Model of Care staffing (adapted to HSE Southwest population as NCPED quotes sectors of 500,000-600000 so average of 550,000 taken) | NCPED Model of Care staffing (adapted to HSE Southwest population as NCPED quotes sectors of 500,000- 600000) | NCPED recommended staffing per HSE South West population of 740,614 (2022) and taking midpoint of NCPED Model of Care sector population = 550,000) | * CAREDS current Staffing |
|--|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Consultant Child Psychiatrist | 1 | 1.3 | 0.8 |
| Consultant Paediatrician/ physician | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.5 |
| NCHD | 1.5 | 2 | 2 |
| Senior Clinical Psychologist | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.0 |
| Senior Social Worker/family therapist | 1.0 | 1.3 | 2 |
| Senior Dietitian | 1.0 Community 0.1 hospital | 1.3 0.13 | 0 |
| CNS/ CNM | 3.0 | 4 | 2 |
| Senior Occupational Therapist | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.0 |
| Clinical Coordinator (clinician) | 0.5 | 0.65 | 0.0 |
| Senior SLT | | NCPED identified priority need for 1.0 SLT per team in 2022. | 0.5 |
| Administration | 2 | Total: 2.6 | 1.0 |
| Ancillary posts for day programme | 2 posts to be specified. | 2.6 posts to be specified | 0 |
| Total | 14.4 | 18.88 (19.88 including SLT) | 10.8 |

***CAREDS** (Child and Adolescent Regional Eating Disorder Service) for Cork and Kerry and provides specialist eating disorder care for young people under the age of 18. CAREDS is an outpatient service based in Cork and work closely with a multidisciplinary team to provide specialist eating disorder care across the region. CAREDS accepts referrals from Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, medical consultants and GPs.



Adult Mental Health Services

| NCPED Model of Care staffing (adapted to HSE Southwest population as NCPED quotes sectors of 500,000-600,000 so average of 550,000 taken) | NCPED Model of Care staffing (NCPED quotes sectors of 500,000-600,000) | NCPED recommended staffing per HSE South West population of 740,614 (2022) and taking midpoint of NCPED Model of Care sector population = 550,000) | **STREAM current Staffing |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|
| Consultant Psychiatrist | 1 | 1.3 | 1 |
| Consultant Physician | 0.2+0.1 | 0.3+0.1 | 0 |
| NCHD | 1.5 | 2 | 1 NCHD |
| Senior Clinical Psychologist | 1 | 1.3 | 1.3 |
| Senior Social Worker | 1 | 1.3 | 1 |
| Senior Dietitian | 1 Community 0.1 Hospital | 1.3 0.13 | 0 |
| Nursing | 3 | 4 | 2 CNS |
| Senior Occupational Therapist | 1 | 1.3 | 0 |
| Senior creative therapist (Senior OT) | 1 | 1.3 | 0 |
| Clinical coordinator (clinician) | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0 |
| Senior SLT | | NCPED identified priority need for 1.0 SLT per team in 2022. | 0 |
| Administration | 2 | 2.7 | 0.8 |
| Ancillary staff for day programme | Sessional | | 0 |
| Total | 13.4 | 17.7 (18.7 including SLT) | 7.1 |

**** STREAM** is a Mental Health Service that aims to provide support and treatment for the recovery of service users with Eating Disorders in Cork Kerry Community Healthcare. STREAM was established in line with the HSE Model of Care for Eating Disorders. The service is an adult service so anyone over the age of 18 can attend/ be referred. There is no fee attached to the service so no medical card or health insurance is required.

The service is delivered by the following team members:

- ✓ Consultant Psychiatrist
- ✓ Non-Consultant Hospital Doctor
- ✓ Senior Clinical Psychologist
- ✓ Senior Occupational Therapist
- ✓ Social Work Team Leader
- ✓ Clinical Nurse Specialist
- ✓ Administrators

Regarding dietetic staffing, the following posts have been approved:

- ✓ 1.0 WTE Clinical Specialist Dietitian for STREAM services
- ✓ 1.0 WTE Clinical Specialist Dietitian for CAREDS service.

The relevant paperwork is being completed and we hope to start the recruitment process in the coming weeks.

I trust the above clarifies the queries raised. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,



Deborah Harrington
A/Head of Service
Mental Health Services
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare