



Oifig na Seirbhísí Sláinte Meabhrach  
Cúram Sláinte Pobail Corcaigh & Ciarraí

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25<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Minister Michael Healy-Rae,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 5925/25**

**“To ask the Minister for Health when a vacancy for CNS in crisis intervention in mental health for Kerry mental health services, which was placed on a recruitment hold, will be filled; and if she will make a statement on the matter.”**

Dear Minister Healy-Rae,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Mental Health Services South West are committed to meeting the mental health needs of the population we serve. As a service we recognise importance of responsiveness to acute mental health presentations especially out of hours. To this end the service has funded four crisis nurses in the county.

Recognising the need to address the service gap in out of hour's provision Kerry Mental Health Services submitted a comprehensive business case to the National Clinical Care Programme to establish a full Crisis Resolution Team in Kerry in 2024. Unfortunately, we received confirmation that there is no funding for the establishment of this multidisciplinary team for 2025. We have been advised to resubmit our business case for 2026 and our intention is to resubmit our funding request for a Crisis Resolution Team for the county.

At this time Kerry Mental Health Services have been approved in principle to recruit to a Clinical Nurse Specialist Crisis Nurse post. This post is at senior management approvals stage and we intend to recruit to the post 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**