

26th February, 2025

Mr. Donnchadh Ó Laoghaire., T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 6482/25

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of psychologists designated in a full-time capacity to the Carrigaline primary care centre; if there are locums; and the plans to recruit further in this regard."

Dear Deputy Ó Laoghaire,

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

The allocation of primary care psychology staffing is to the South Lee area across networks 11, 12, 13 and 14 which includes Carrigaline.

Core Team Child & Adolescent services are provided from Block 23, St. Finbarr's Hospital, Cork. CKCH PC Psychology Waiting List Initiative (WLI) Team are also allocated files of those longest waiting / waiting > 1 year on Cork Kerry Primary Care Child, Adolescent & Family Psychology Service waitlists. This WLI team is based in offices on Bessborough (Childhood Matters) Site.

There is one Adult Primary Care Psychologist post in South Lee based in Kinsale Primary Care Centre but receiving referrals from Carrigaline area as well as Kinsale and Bandon. Bookable rooms in Carrigaline may be used to see clients who cannot travel to Kinsale Primary Care Centre.

There are no primary care psychologists designated in a full-time capacity to the Carrigaline Primary Care Centre. There are no locum staff in place.

Posts approved for filling are progressed by way of National HSE panels for Senior, Staff Grade and Psychology Assistant grades. Where posts are not filled from the NRS panels, local recruitment will be looked at e.g. local interviews from CVs received and advertising via universities to graduates of professional psychology programmes as well as Agency and/or International recruitment.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mari O'Donovan
Interim Head of Service - Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare