

26th February 2025

Mr. Pa Daly, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 7339/ 25

“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of staff in the Child Disability Networks Teams in County Kerry; and the percentage of posts filled in occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy and psychology and other disciplines, in tabular form.”

Dear Deputy Daly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth for response.

Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNT's) have been established to provide services and supports for children with complex disability needs within a defined geographic area. Each CDNT is under the governance of a lead agency which is a Section 38 or Section 39 service provider. Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CKCH) is continuing to engage with the CDNT lead agencies with regard to the management of these teams.

There are three CDNTs in Co. Kerry. The North and South Kerry teams are managed by Brothers of Charity Southern Services (Section 38). The West Kerry team is managed by Enable Ireland (Section 39).

The HSE and its Section 38 and Section 39 Lead Agencies are operating in a very competitive global market for healthcare talent, as there are significant shortages of qualified healthcare professionals across the globe. This is impacting on the filling of posts and as such impacts on full delivery of service to families. CKCH Disability Services in conjunction with the Cork and Kerry lead agencies continue to make all efforts to fill posts as quickly as possible and put any measures possible in place to

minimise the impact on children and their families. Staffing within Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) in Co. Kerry are outlined in the tables below:

The tables below provide detail on approved posts, those filled and vacant as at January 2025. You will note that some posts are filled however the staff may be availing of their statutory leave entitlements (e.g. maternity leave).

Table 1: North Kerry (CDNT 1) covers the geographical area of Listowel/Castleisland and is under the governance of lead agency Brothers of Charity Service Ireland (BOCSI)

CDNT Code	Grade Group	Approved WTEs	Filled WTEs	% Filled	Filled (on leave)	% Filled (on leave)	Vacant WTEs	% Vacant
CDNT 01	Management / Admin	2.50	2.50	100%				
CDNT 01	Nursing	0.50	0.50	100%				
CDNT 01	Occupational Therapy	4.00	3.00	75%	1.00	25%		
CDNT 01	Other Disciplines	2.10	2.00	95%			0.10	5%
CDNT 01	Physiotherapy	1.50	1.50	100%				
CDNT 01	Psychology	3.80	2.20	58%			1.60	42%
CDNT 01	Social Work	3.00	2.00	67%			1.00	33%
CDNT 01	Speech & Language Therapy	4.10	3.30	80%	0.80	20%		
CDNT 01	Therapy Assistants	2.00					2.00	100%
		23.50	17.00	72%	1.80	8%	4.70	20%

Table 2: West Kerry (CDNT 2) covers the geographical area of Tralee/ Dingle and is under the governance of lead agency Enable Ireland.

CDNT Code	Grade Group	Approved WTEs	Filled WTEs	% Filled	Filled (on leave)	% Filled (on leave)	Vacant WTEs	% Vacant
CDNT 02	Dietetics	1.00	1.00	100%				
CDNT 02	Management / Admin	2.73	2.73	100%				
CDNT 02	Nursing	0.76			0.76	100%		
CDNT 02	Occupational Therapy	3.00	3.00	100%				
CDNT 02	Other Disciplines	1.32	0.82	62%	0.50	38%		
CDNT 02	Physiotherapy	1.50	1.50	100%				
CDNT 02	Psychology	4.40	3.20	73%	0.20	5%	1.00	23%
CDNT 02	Social Work	2.50	2.50	100%				
CDNT 02	Speech & Language Therapy	3.80	1.80	47%	2.00	53%		
CDNT 02	Therapy Assistants	1.00					1.00	100%
		22.01	16.55	75%	3.46	16%	2.00	9%

Table 3: South Kerry (CDNT 3) covers the geographical area of Iveragh/ Kenmare/ Sneem/ Killorglin/ Killarney and is under the governance of lead agency Brothers of Charity Service Ireland (BOCSI)

CDNT Code	Grade Group	Approved WTEs	Filled WTEs	% Filled	Filled (on leave)	% Filled (on leave)	Vacant WTEs	% Vacant
CDNT 03	Management / Admin	4.75	4.75	100%				
CDNT 03	Nursing	1.50	0.50	33%	0.50	33%	0.50	33%
CDNT 03	Occupational Therapy	5.60	4.80	86%	0.80	14%		
CDNT 03	Other Disciplines	2.81	2.81	100%				
CDNT 03	Physiotherapy	2.10	2.10	100%				
CDNT 03	Psychology	4.80	4.80	100%				
CDNT 03	Social Work	2.50	2.50	100%				
CDNT 03	Speech & Language Therapy	6.10	4.30	70%	1.80	30%		
CDNT 03	Therapy Assistants	2.00					2.00	100%
		32.16	26.56	83%	3.10	10%	2.50	8%

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



Yours sincerely,

Angela O'Neill
Head of Disability Services
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare

