



**Donan Kelly, Assistant National Director, Child & Youth Mental Health Office**

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Deputy Tom Brabazon  
Dail Eireann,  
Dublin 2.

Date: 18/03/2025

**PQ Number: 9081/25**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the rationale behind the relocation of mental health nurses. -Tom Brabazon**

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Dear Deputy Brabazon,

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

The most recent workforce report published for Mental Health is available on the HSE website at the following link <https://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/resources/our-workforce/workforce-reporting/mental-health-employment-report-january-2025.pdf>

This includes information on the total Nursing whole time equivalent (WTE) and Number (headcount) employed in Mental Health Services across each of the six Regional Health Areas. In relation to nursing staff, a total of 5,630 (headcount) equating to 5,029 WTE is employed for reporting period of January 2025.

I note the query in relation to the relocation of mental health nurses and if the Deputy wishes to provide detail on this, it may be possible to explore this further.

In general, on occasion and to address service needs, a staff member may be required to reassign within a service to address short-term deficits, e.g. unplanned leave and such incidences are managed by each area ensuring patient safety is maintained as a priority at all times.



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I trust this information is of assistance to you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

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**Donan Kelly**

**Assistant National Director – Child & Youth Mental Health Office**

**National Mental Health Services**