

30th May 2025

Deputy Sorca Clarke
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 24207/25

“To ask the Minister for Health if she will report on the current staffing levels within CAMHS teams in West Cork and the wider Cork area; and the number of children who have been referred to CAMHS West Cork but who have never been seen; and if she will make a statement on the matter”

Dear Deputy Clarke,

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.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) provide mental health services to service users up to the age of 18 years, who have moderate to severe mental disorders that require the input of a multi-disciplinary team.

Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services - Wider Cork Area										
Whole Time Equivalent Staff Breakdown by Discipline - April 2025										
Discipline	CAMHS Teams									
	North Cork	North Lee North	North Lee East	North Lee West	South Lee 1	South Lee 2	South Lee 3	West Cork	Intellectual Disability	Child & Adolescent Regional Eating Disorder Service (Cork/Kerry)
Consultant Psychiatrist - Actual	3.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.80
Senior Registrar - Actual	1.60	0.80	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	0.00	0.80
Registrar/SHO - Actual	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	0.00	1.00	1.00
Social Worker - Actual	2.70	1.00	1.40	1.50	0.80	0.80	1.60	1.80	0.60	1.60
Clinical Psychologist - Actual	2.50	1.80	1.18	1.40	1.40	1.80	0.80	0.90	0.00	1.00
Occupational Therapist - Actual	1.00	0.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	0.80	1.00	0.90	0.00	0.80
Speech & Language Therapist - Actual	2.00	0.60	0.85	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.40	0.00	0.50
Nurse - Actual	0.10	1.60	0.00	0.80	1.40	1.00	0.00	1.80	1.00	1.60
Child/Social Care Worker - Actual	0.00	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Therapist - Actual	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Administrative Support Staff - Actual	4.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	1.60	2.00	0.00	1.00
Non Nursing - Actual	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Staff - Actual	1.00	0.00	0.40	0.00	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60
WTE Total - Actual	18.90	10.40	9.83	11.50	11.00	7.50	8.00	11.80	3.60	9.70

As of 30/04/2025 there are 91 children on the waiting list who have been referred to CAMHS West Cork.

The service acknowledges the difficulties faced by families waiting for access to CAMHS, we are working on a number of initiatives to improve access to the service across the region, with emphasis placed on ensuring vacant posts are filled as soon as possible.

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

Yours sincerely,

Declan Cronin
Acting Head of Mental Health Services