



Ceann Seirbhísí Daoine Scothaosta

Limistéar Cúram Sláinte Pobail an
Oirdheiscirt | Lacken |
Bóthar Bhaile Átha Cliath | Cill Chainnigh |
R95 NV08

**Head of Service Older
Persons**

South East Community
Healthcare Area | Lacken |
Dublin Road | Kilkenny |
R95 NV08

Tel: 056 7784319

1st October 2025

Mr Peter Cleere, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 52821/25 - To ask the Minister for Health whether there is a vacant position for a speech and language therapist at Saint Columba's Hospital, Thomastown, County Kilkenny; how long the post has been vacant; and the plans in place to fill this vacancy.

Dear Deputy Cleere

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

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

If this query relates to Older Persons Residential, this post is resourced by Primary Care and the employee is currently on statutory leave.

If this query relates to the Rehabilitation Unit, there is one vacant Speech and Language post since February 2022. Several attempts have been made to fill the post through advertisement and recruitment campaigns however a suitable candidate was not identified.

The HSE continues to work toward sourcing a Speech and Language Therapist for Rehabilitation Services in St Columba's Hospital, Thomastown.

I trust this clarifies. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Bridget Farrell
General Manager, Older Persons Services
IHA, Carlow/Kilkenny & South Tipperary