

General Manager of Children's Disability Services HSE Carlow Kilkenny and Tipperary South HSE Waterford Wexford

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11th September 2025

Mr. Mattie McGrath TD Dail Eireann Leinster House Dublin 2

## PQ 45936/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the full complement of staff currently working within the children's disability teams 4 and 5 in South Tipperary; the number of vacancies within each team and the length of time each position has been vacant; the efforts being made to fill the vacancies; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy McGrath,

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.

The following table sets out the full complement of staff currently working within the **Childrens Disability Network Teams Network 4 Cashel**, the number of vacancies and the length of time each position has been vacant:

Complement of staff	No. of Vacancies	Post	WTE	Length of time vacant
23.42 WTE	9.60 WTE	Senior Occupational Therapist	1.20	30.03.2023
		Physiotherapist Basic Grade	1.00	21.07.2025
		Senior Physiotherapist	1.40	2022
		Senior Psychologist	1.00	18.12.2024
		Speech & Language Therapist – Basic Grade	1.00	11.05.2025
		Senior Speech and Language Therapist	3.00	23.05.2024 17.08.2025
		Social Worker Basic Grade	1.00	26.06.2025

The following table sets out the full complement of staff currently working within the **Childrens Disability Network Teams Network 5 Clonmel**, the number of vacancies and the length of time each position has been vacant:

Complement of staff	No. of Vacancies	Post	WTE	Length of time vacant
17.60 WTE	7.00 WTE	Senior Occupational Therapist	1.00	17.05.2023
		Physiotherapist Basic Grade	1.00	07.08.2023
		Physiotherapist Clinical Specialist	1.00	2025



Psychologist Basic Grade	1.00	01.12.2023
Senior Psychologist	2.00	2023
Speech & Language Therapist Basic Grade	2.00	2023

As with other areas Disability Services with IHA Carlow/Kilkenny/South Tipperary are continuing to experience significant recruitment challenges. The HSE is operating in a very competitive market as there are significant shortages of qualified healthcare professionals nationally and internationally.

The IHA continues to prioritise local competitions for all disciplines and continues to express posts out to current national panels where relevant.

The HSE acknowledges that waiting times for CDNT service at this time are particularly stressful for children and their families, and will continue to explore a range of options to enhance the recruitment and retention of essential staff into our CDNTs.

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

Yours sincerely,

Maeve Cleary
General Manager – Children's Disability Services
IHA Carlow Kilkenny/Tipperary South
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