

## **Director of Counselling - National Counselling Service**

### **Grade Code 3027**

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by Section 22 of the Health Act 2004, I hereby approve the qualifications, as set out hereunder, for the appointment and continuing as a **Director of Counselling - National Counselling Service** in the Health Service Executive.

#### **1. Professional Qualifications & Experience**

Candidates must possess:-

- a) (i) An accredited qualification in psychology, social work, nursing or medicine,  
**and**  
(ii) An accredited qualification in counselling or psychotherapy or a relevant post-graduate qualification  
**and**
- b) Five years experience in counselling therapy  
**and**
- c) Experience in developing policies and philosophy of service  
**and**
- d) Experience of supervising staff  
**and**
- e) Detailed knowledge of childhood and institutional abuse  
**and**
- f) The requisite knowledge and ability (including a high standard of suitability and management ability) for the proper discharge of the duties of the office.

#### **2. Age Restrictions in Relation to Applications**

No age restriction shall apply to a candidate except where he/she is not classified as a new entrant (within the meaning of the Public Service Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2004). In this case the candidate must be under 65 years of age on the first day of the month in which the latest date for receiving completed application forms for the office occurs.

#### **3. Health**

A candidate for and any person holding the office must be fully competent and capable of undertaking the duties attached to the office and be in a state of health such as would indicate a reasonable prospect of ability to render regular and efficient service.

#### **4. Character**

Each candidate for and any person holding the office must be of good character.

#### **5. Approved**

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> January 2008

**Signed:** Martin McDonald  
National Director of Human Resources

