



Cúram Sláinte
Phobail, Iarthar
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,
Maigheo agus Ros Comáin

Community
Healthcare West
serving Galway, Mayo
and Roscommon

Oifig an Bhainisteora Ginearálta
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais
Cúram Sláinte Phobail, Iarthar,
An Sean Ionad Sláinte, Sráid an Bhíocáire, Tuaim, Co. na
Gaillimhe
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7th December 2021

Catherine Connolly TD
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Office of the General Manager
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PQ 59535/21

“To ask the Minister for Health the status of the reconfiguration of the Galway Roscommon ASD service to the new Children's Disability Network Services for Children and Young People; the engagement his Department has had with service users and their families with regard to the reconfiguration; the number of children who are currently on the waiting list for assessment; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Connolly

I refer to PQ 59535/21 uploaded on the PAD System on the 29th November 2021 and due for response on the 14th December 2021 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Health concerning “the status of the reconfiguration of the Galway Roscommon ASD service to the new Children's Disability Network Services for Children and Young People; the engagement his Department has had with service users and their families with regard to the reconfiguration; the number of children who are currently on the waiting list for assessment; and if he will make a statement on the matter”. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

Please be advised that Community Healthcare West (CHW) are currently reconfiguring children's services and moving to the new Progressing Disability Services (PDS) for children and young people model. Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People Programme 0-18 (PDS) is a National HSE change programme for the provision of therapeutic services for children from birth to 18 years of age that aims to transform the way children's disability services are delivered. It is being rolled out nationally by the HSE in partnership with its funded voluntary organisations.

Over 200 staff have been reconfigured into 9 Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) across CHW - 5 in Galway, 3 in Mayo and 1 in Roscommon. Seven of these teams are HSE led with Enable Ireland and the Brothers of Charity Galway leading the other two teams. The Galway and Roscommon CDNTs are operational since the 11th October 2021 and it is anticipated that the 3 Mayo CDNTs will be established in December 2021.

The PDS Programme will change the way services are provided across the country. In line with PDS policy, reconfiguring will include delivering services based on where children and young people live and through family centred practice. Services are planned to be delivered through a range of provisions and options, such as 1:1 input, group based intervention and universal strategies. The provision of these options will be discussed and planned for each family through an Individual Family Service Plan. This Plan will be developed and agreed between the family and the service, which will include where or how services and input is provided.

Reconfiguring of Children's Services has experienced delays which have been exacerbated by the COVID 19 Pandemic, the cyber-attack and challenges in recruiting staff. As reconfiguration is still ongoing at this time, it is not possible to determine when children referred to the service can expect to start receiving appointments. There are waiting lists for each discipline across each network and this will become clearer when reconfiguration is complete. CHW continues to carry out assessments and intervention with children. Every effort is being made to minimise the disruption to children and families and to offset this disruption, CHW are recruiting staff across all disciplines for a waiting list initiative to address waiting times in Children's Disability Network Teams.

I trust that this response has clarified the matters that you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely

pp Maura Monaghan

Alma Joyce
General Manager
Disability Services
Community Healthcare West