

23<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

Deputy Thomas Gould,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ ref: 62542/21**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the number of staff members by role currently employed and working on children’s disability network teams in County Cork by team in tabular form”**

Dear Deputy Gould

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

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare reconfigured children’s disability services to Children’s Disability Network Teams under the Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People Programme (PDS) in April 2021. PDS is a significant change programme for the provision of services and supports for children from birth to 18 years of age, in line with Sláintecare and the Programme for Government, in order to:

- Provide a clear pathway and fairer access to services for all children with a disability
- Make the best use of available resources for the benefit of all children and their families
- Ensure effective teams are working in partnership with families and with education staff to support children with a disability to reach their full potential.

PDS aligns with two clear objectives of The Sláintecare Report to:

- Provide the majority of care at or as close to home as possible
- Create an integrated system of care with healthcare professionals working closely together.

Children’s Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) have been established to provide services and supports for all children with complex needs within a defined geographic area. CDNTs are teams of health and social care professionals, including nursing, occupational therapy, psychology, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy, social work and others. The team work closely together in a family centred model, focusing on the child’s and family’s own priorities. Every child with complex needs arising from a disability will have access to a team, regardless of the nature of their disability, where they live, or the school they attend.

The CDNT work collaboratively with the child and family to identify the needs and priorities of the child and family, plan goals and develop an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP). This is a written plan that focuses on the strengths and needs of the child and family, incorporating their priorities and concerns. Children and their families will have access to the full range of services and supports of the CDNT according to their individual needs. This includes

universal, targeted and direct supports, such as individual therapeutic intervention and access to consultation and assessment when needed. Supports will be provided as is feasible in the child's natural environments - their home, school and community.

The table below provides details of the approved funded staffing on each team and the numbers of filled and unfilled posts as of end of Q3 2021. There are a number of vacancies due to new posts in recruitment, resignations and factors including statutory leave such as maternity leave, carers leave, parental leave and sick leave. Backfilling of posts is challenging in the current environment due to lack of availability of appropriately qualified staff and demand for same across the health service. However the Lead Agencies responsible for the management of the teams are prioritising the recruitment of such posts.

<b>CDNT</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Approved Staffing WTE</b>	
<b>Northwest Cork - CDNT 4</b>	Physiotherapist	<b>2.00</b>	Filled post - 0.8 Unfilled post - 1.2
	Occupational Therapist	<b>4.40</b>	Filled post - 2.8 Unfilled post - 1.6
	Speech & Language Therapist	<b>5.55</b>	Filled post - 3.83 Unfilled post - 1.71
	Psychologist	<b>3.00</b>	Filled post - 2 Unfilled post - 1
	Social Worker	<b>2.30</b>	Filled post - 1.4 Unfilled post - 0.9
	Nursing	<b>0.90</b>	Filled post - 0.9
	Family Support	<b>2.98</b>	Filled post - 2.03 Unfilled post - 0.95
	Administration	<b>0.80</b>	Filled post - 0.8
	CDNT Manager	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
<b>Northeast Cork – CDNT 5</b>	Physiotherapist	<b>2.00</b>	Filled post - 1.8 Unfilled post - 0.2
	Occupational Therapist	<b>1.80</b>	Filled post - 1.8
	Speech & Language Therapist	<b>2.00</b>	Filled post - 2
	Psychologist	<b>1.86</b>	Filled post - 1.86
	Social Worker	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1 Unfilled post -
	Nursing	<b>1.00</b>	Unfilled post - 1
	Family Support	<b>1.29</b>	Filled post - 1.29
	Administration	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
	CDNT Manager	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
<b>East Central Cork – CDNT 6</b>	Physiotherapist	<b>2.00</b>	Filled post - 1.8 Unfilled post - 0.2
	Occupational Therapist	<b>2.00</b>	Filled post - 2
	Speech & Language Therapist	<b>2.83</b>	Filled post - 2.2 Unfilled post -



			0.63
	Psychologist	<b>2.83</b>	Filled post - 2.8 Unfilled post - 0.03
	Social Worker	<b>0.83</b>	Filled post - 0.8 Unfilled post - 0.03
	Nursing	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
	Family Support	<b>0.80</b>	Unfilled post - 0.8
	Administration	<b>1.30</b>	Filled post - 1.3
	CDNT Manager	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
<b>East Cork City – CDNT 7</b>			
	Physiotherapist	<b>2.00</b>	Filled post – 0.8 Unfilled post – 1.2
	Occupational Therapist	<b>4.00</b>	Filled post – 3.2 Unfilled post 0.8
	Speech & Language Therapist	<b>4.52</b>	Filled post – 4.52
	Psychologist	<b>2.50</b>	Filled post – 2.50 Unfilled post – 0.80
	Social Worker	<b>2.00</b>	2
	Nursing	<b>1.20</b>	Filled post – 0.50 Unfilled post – 0.70
	Family Support Worker	<b>1.72</b>	Filled post – 0.72 Unfilled post - 1
	Administration	<b>0.97</b>	Filled post – 0.97
	CDNM	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
<b>Central Cork – CDNT 8</b>			
	Physiotherapist	<b>2.00</b>	Filled post – 0.5 Unfilled post – 1.5
	Occupational Therapist	<b>3.00</b>	Filled post - 3
	Speech & Language Therapist	<b>4.80</b>	Filled post – 4.8
	Psychologist	<b>2.40</b>	Filled post – 1 Unfilled post – 1.4
	Social Worker	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post – 0.7 Unfilled post – 0.3
	Nursing	<b>0.50</b>	Filled post – 0.5
	Family Support Worker	<b>0.80</b>	Unfilled post – 0.8
	Administration	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
	CDNM	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
<b>North Cork City &amp; Blarney – CDNT 9</b>			
	Physiotherapist	<b>1.50</b>	Filled post – 1 Unfilled post – 0.5
	Occupational Therapist	<b>3.00</b>	Filled post – 1 Unfilled post – 2
	Speech & Language Therapist	<b>3.00</b>	Filled post – 2.9



			Unfilled post – 0.1
	Psychologist	<b>3.00</b>	Filled post – 0.4 Unfilled post – 1.6
	Social Worker	<b>0.80</b>	Filled post – 0.8
	Nursing	<b>0.90</b>	Filled post – 0.8 Unfilled post – 0.1
	Family Support Worker	<b>1.17</b>	Filled post – 0.5 Unfilled post – 0.67
	Administration	<b>0.50</b>	Filled post – 0.50
	CDNM	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
<b>West Cork – CDNT 10</b>			
	Physiotherapist	<b>3.10</b>	Filled post - 3.1
	Occupational Therapist	<b>3.88</b>	Filled post - 3.88
	Speech & Language Therapist	<b>5.90</b>	Filled post - 5.9
	Psychologist	<b>3.81</b>	Filled post - 3.81
	Social Worker	<b>0.50</b>	Filled post - 0.5
	Nursing	<b>2.30</b>	Filled post - 2.3
	Family Support		
	Administration	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
	CDNT Manager	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
<b>South East Cork City – CDNT 11</b>			
	Physiotherapist	<b>1.70</b>	Filled post – 1.19 Unfilled post – 0.51
	Occupational Therapist	<b>3.00</b>	Filled post – 2.2 Unfilled post – 0.80
	Speech & Language Therapist	<b>5.00</b>	Filled post – 2.8 Unfilled post – 2.2
	Psychologist	<b>3.60</b>	Filled post – 2.6 Unfilled post – 1
	Social Worker	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post – 1
	Nursing	<b>0.50</b>	Filled post – 0.5
	Family Support Worker	<b>3.23</b>	Filled post – 3.23
	Administration	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post – 1.00
	CDNM	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post 1.00
<b>West Central Cork – CDNT 12</b>			
	Physiotherapist	<b>2.50</b>	Filled post - 6.5 Unfilled post - (-4)
	Occupational Therapist	<b>6.52</b>	Filled post - 3.92 Unfilled post - 2.6
	Speech & Language Therapist	<b>5.30</b>	Filled post - 4 Unfilled post - 1.3
	Psychologist	<b>3.80</b>	Filled post - 1.6 Unfilled post - 2.2



	Social Worker	<b>2.00</b>	Filled post - 2
	Nursing	<b>0.50</b>	Unfilled post - 0.5
	Family Support	<b>3.74</b>	Filled post - 3.74
	Administration	<b>0.82</b>	Filled post - 0.82
	CDNT Manager	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
<b>CDNT 13</b>			
<b>Bandon</b>	Physiotherapist	<b>2.48</b>	Filled post – 1.5 Unfilled post – 1
<b>Carrigaline</b>	Occupational Therapist	<b>4.62</b>	Filled post – 2.42 Unfilled post – 2.2
<b>Kinsale</b>	Speech & Language Therapist	<b>5.30</b>	Filled post – 4.80 Unfilled post – 0.50
	Psychologist	<b>4.30</b>	Filled post – 2.3 Unfilled post – 2
	Social Worker	<b>1.95</b>	Filled post – 1.75 Unfilled post – 0.2
	Nursing	<b>0.90</b>	Filled post – 0.9
	Family Support Worker	<b>3.17</b>	Filled post – 3.17
	Administration	<b>1.56</b>	Filled post – 1.40 Unfilled post – 0.16
	CDNM	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
<b>CDNT 14</b>			
<b>South Cork</b>	Physiotherapist	<b>1.50</b>	Filled post – 0.60 Unfilled post – 0.90
<b>City</b>	Occupational Therapist	<b>2.50</b>	Filled post – 1.60 Unfilled post – 0.90
	Speech & Language Therapist	<b>3.00</b>	Filled post – 2.3 Unfilled post – 0.7
	Psychologist	<b>2.50</b>	Filled post – 2 Unfilled post – 0.5
	Social Worker	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1
	Nursing	<b>0.46</b>	Filled post – 0.46
	Family Support Worker	<b>1.76</b>	Filled post – 1.56 Unfilled post – 0.2
	Administration	<b>0.75</b>	Filled post – 0.75
	CDNM	<b>1.00</b>	Filled post - 1

I trust this clarifies the situation for you.

Yours sincerely,



**Ms. Majella Daly,**  
**Head of Disability Services, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**

