



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
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20th April 2021

Deputy Aengus Ó Snodaigh
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
e-mail: aengus.osnodaigh@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Ó Snodaigh,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary question, which was submitted to this department for response.

PQ 16146/21

To ask the Minister for Health the locations in which the new 300 therapists will be located.

HSE Response

Allocation of Therapy Posts

100 therapy posts were allocated to children's disability services under the HSE National Service Plan 2019. These posts were funded at basic grade therapist level. Posts were allocated to CHO areas based on the numbers of overdue Assessments of Need in each area as well as taking cognisance of the existing ratio of staff to the number of children with disabilities in each area.

A further 100 posts have been allocated under the HSE National Service Plan 2021. Funding for these posts will facilitate each area to determine the discipline and grade required to address the gaps in their Children's Disability Network Teams. The 2021 allocation of posts is being assigned to the CHO areas in two tranches of 50 posts. The first tranche has been assigned based on the existing ratio of staff to the number of children with disabilities in each area. The second tranche will be allocated based on performance in the following categories:

Category 1 – Assessment of Need (max 36 posts)

The AON Special Scheme aims to eliminate overdue Assessments of Need from early 2021. 1 post will be allocated to each CHO area that achieves zero overdue AONs as per the published quarterly reports, for Quarter 1, Quarter 2, Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 2021. Any posts not assigned via this mechanism will be included for allocation in category 2.

Category 2 - Establishment of CDNTs

It is expected that all CHO areas will achieve full reconfiguration of their children's disability services to CDNTs by Quarter 2 2021. Posts in this category will be allocated on a pro-rata basis to CHOs based on the proportion of their total number CDNTs established at 31st March 2021. For the purposes of this exercise the following criteria must be met for each network:

- All appropriate staff assigned to CDNT

- All pre-existing caseloads transferred to CDNT as appropriate
- CDNT providing services for children with complex needs aged 0 – 18 years

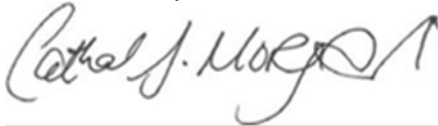
CHOs must ensure that the allocation of any posts to CDNTs are targeted towards providing appropriate interventions.

The allocation of posts by CHO is summarised in the table below.

	2019	2021 Phase 1
CHO1	12	5
CHO2	3.5	4
CHO3	12	4
CHO4	6	5
CHO5	15	7
CHO6	3.5	1
CHO7	13	8.5
CHO8	19	8
CHO9	16	7.5
Total	100	50

The range of posts to be recruited in phase 1 2021 include; dietitians, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, psychologists, speech & language therapists and some administrative support.

Yours sincerely



Dr. Cathal Morgan,
Head of Operations - Disability Services,
Community Operations