



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  
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11<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Denis Naughten TD  
Dail Eireann  
Kildare St  
Dublin 2

**PQ 52333/21**

**“To ask the Minister for Health when the children's disability network team will be established in the CHO2 area; when children referred to the service can expect to start receiving appointments; the interim plans in place to support such children; and if he will make a statement on the matter”.**

Dear Deputy Naughten

I refer to PQ 52333/21 uploaded on the PAD System on the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 and due for response on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Health concerning “when the children's disability network team will be established in the CHO2 area; when children referred to the service can expect to start receiving appointments; the interim plans in place to support such children; 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.

I wish to advise that Community Healthcare West (CHW) has entered the reconfiguration phase and there has been an acceleration in the process of the implementation of Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People (PDS CYP), with the appointment of Children’s Disability Network Managers (CDNMs). Over 200 staff are currently being configured into 9 Children’s Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) across CHW. Seven of these teams are HSE led with Enable Ireland and the Brothers of Charity Galway leading the other two teams.

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*

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Alma Joyce  
General Manager  
Disability Services  
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