



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Head of Service,
Mid West Disability Services
HSE Mid West Community Healthcare,
Pearse House, Pearse Road
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Tel: 061 464061 Website: <http://www.hse.ie>

17th September 2021

**Deputy Jackie Cahill,
8-9 Parnell Street,
Thurles,
Co. Tipperary**

Email: jackie.cahill@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 43865/21, PQ 43868/21 & PQ 43870/21

PQ 43865/21 To ask the Minister for Health if additional supports will be provided for early intervention services for children with a disability in north County Tipperary in the HSE mid-west region; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 43868/21 To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether there are adequate staffing levels in early intervention services in Nenagh, County Tipperary for children with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 43870/21 To ask the Minister for Health if there is adequate funding of early intervention services for children with disabilities in North County Tipperary considering some physiotherapists are operating clients lists of up to 500 children locally and many children cannot access the services they desperately need at an early age; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Cahill,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. As the three PQ's referenced above relate to staffing and funding associated with the North Tipperary Children's Disability Team (Early Intervention Team), I have provided a response hereunder which outlines the HSE's position.

HSE Disability Services have acknowledged and recognised that the North Tipperary Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) has been under-resourced in recent years in comparison to other CDNT's within the Mid-West and have been working closely with our colleagues in the National Disability Office and the Dept. of Health in trying to secure additional resources to address the situation.

As a result of these endeavours, I am pleased to advise that six additional posts have been allocated to the North Tipperary Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) in 2021. Two of these posts were allocated in April 2021 where the recruitment process is complete with the successful candidates in post. The remaining four posts were allocated to the Team in August 2021 under Phase 2 of PDS and the recruitment process is under way with the expectation that these positions will be filled as a top priority.

HSE Disability Services are confident that the above additional resources when fully in place will have a positive impact in terms of the Team's capacity and performance.

I trust this information clarifies the situation but should you require any further information or clarification in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maurice Hoare". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Maurice Hoare
Head of Service, Disability Services