



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Head of Service,  
Mid-West Disability Services  
HSE Mid-West Community Healthcare,  
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20<sup>th</sup> September 2021

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

Email: [jackie.cahill@oireachtas.ie](mailto:jackie.cahill@oireachtas.ie)

Re: PQ 43867/21

***To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether it is acceptable that parents of children born with disabilities are being advised to remain in the care of hospital services often in Dublin for as long as possible rather than changing to local early intervention services in Nenagh, County Tipperary due to short staffing in early intervention services in Nenagh; and if he will make a statement on the matter.***

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**Dear Deputy Cahill,**

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

I wish to advise that HSE Disability Services are not aware of parents of children with a disability being advised to remain in the care of hospital services for as long as possible rather than changing to the North Tipperary Children's Disability Team ( CDNT) .

With reference to staffing shortages on the CDNT, HSE Disability Services have acknowledged that the North Tipperary Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) has been under-resourced in comparison to other CDNT's within the Mid-West in recent years.

In this regard, I am pleased to advise that six new 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 and the recruitment process is complete with the successful candidates now in post. The remaining four posts were allocated in August 2021 and the recruitment process is under way with an expectation that these posts will be filled as a matter of urgency.

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

Yours sincerely,

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**Maurice Hoare  
Head of Service, Disability Services**