



Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
31-33 Sráid Chaitríona, Luimneach.

Office of the Head of Operations,
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15th December 2022

Deputy Brid Smith,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: brid.smith@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Smith

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: 60301/22

To ask the Minister for Health if he will outline any plans to establish a community neuro-rehabilitation team in CHO7; if his attention has been drawn to the fact that only 15% of persons have access to community neuro-rehabilitation teams and that despite the promise of a team for each CHO area, only two have been delivered; if his attention has been further drawn to the fact that these teams reduce the average length of stay in hospital which could result in saving over 42,000 bed days each year; when CHO7 will have a team in place; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response

The Programme for Government – 'Our Shared Future' - includes a commitment for advancing neuro-rehabilitation services in the community. The Health Service Executive is leading on the implementation framework in respect of the recommendations of the National Policy and Strategy for the provision of Neuro-Rehabilitation Services in Ireland 2011-2015.

The Neuro-Rehabilitation Strategy Implementation Framework (IF) was launched in February 2019. The overarching aim of the Strategy is the development of neuro-rehabilitation services to improve patient outcomes by providing safe, high quality, person-centred neuro-rehabilitation at the lowest appropriate level of complexity. This must be integrated across the care pathway, and provided as close to home as possible or in specialist centres where necessary. These services are to be configured into population based managed clinical rehabilitation networks (MCRNs). The overarching aim is the development of population based MCRN's around the country.

As part of the MCRN demonstrator project, funding was provided for the establishment of a Community Neuro-Rehabilitation Team in CHO 7. The team has been funded for 5 WTE, with the breakdown as follows:

- 1 x Senior Physiotherapist
- 1 x Senior Occupational Therapist



- 1 x Senior Speech and Language Therapist
- 1 x Senior Clinical Psychologist
- 1 x Administrative Support

In CHO 7, Disability Services are working with Primary Care and Peamount Healthcare to identify a suitable governance model for this team. On agreement of the governance model, recruitment will be progressed in Q4 2022.

A location for the Community Neuro-rehab Team (CNRT) has been agreed in CHO7. The team will be based in Peamount Healthcare

Yours Sincerely,



**Mr Brian J Higgins,
Assistant National Director,
Change Planning and Delivery,
Disability and Mental Health Services**

