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Block B, Civic Centre, Main Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow, A98 X329

15th December 2022

Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

Re: PQ 61858/22 – "To ask the Minister for Health when the long promised community neurorehabilitation team for CHO6 will be established; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

Thank you for your recent correspondence. The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the current position.

I regret to advise that recruitment of the approved therapy post for MRCN team in Community Healthcare East (CH East) has not commenced to date. The reason for this delay is CH East requirement to ensure that there is a robust clinical governance structure in place for these new staff members.

As you are aware, clinical governance helps to ensure people receive the care they need in a safe, nurturing, open and just environment arising from corporate accountability for clinical performance.

The benefit of good clinical governance rests in improved patient experiences and better health outcomes in terms of quality and safety.

Therefore, it is essential before recruitment commences that potential candidates are aware of the defined lines of authority to operate within, there is clear accountability lines and an interdisciplinary model of service delivery has been agreed in advance.

CH East continues to work closely with the National Neuro Rehabilitation Steering Committee pertaining to the securing of appropriate governance structures. The location for the Neuro Rehabilitation team has been identified and once clinical governance is agreed the recruitment process will commence.

I trust that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

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Patricia McEvoy Head of Service, Disability Services