



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

Office of the Head of Operations,
Disability Services/Social Care Division,
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7th March 2022

Deputy David Cullinane,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: david.cullinane@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary questions, which were submitted to this department for response.

PQ 10705/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of children's disability network teams in place and the geographical area they represent; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 10706/22

To ask the Minister for Health the full staff compliment and skills mix in each of the children's disability network teams and the total number; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 10707/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of approved but vacant posts in each of the children's disability network teams and the total number; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

PQ 10708/22

To ask the Minister for Health the waiting lists for services provided by children's disability network teams broken down by network; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response

The implementation of the Progressing Disability Services for Children & Young People (PDS) programme is agreed Government and HSE policy. This policy supports the reconfiguration of children's disability services to provide equitable, child and family centred services based on need rather than diagnosis. This aligns with the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities.

The Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People (PDS) model addresses the previous inequity in service provision whereby there may have been an excellent service for some children and little or no service for others. This variance may have been linked to diagnosis, age group or geography. Under the PDS programme children's disability services are changing from diagnosis based to needs based, so that all children with a disability or developmental delay have access to the right service based on their needs no matter where they live.

PDS is a significant change programme for the provision of services and supports for children from birth to 18 years of age, in line with Sláintecare and the Programme for Government, in order to:

- Provide a clear pathway and fairer access to services for all children with a disability



- Make the best use of available resources for the benefit of all children and their families
- Ensure effective teams are working in partnership with families and with education staff to support children with a disability to reach their full potential.

PDS aligns with two clear objectives of The Sláintecare Report to:

- Provide the majority of care at or as close to home as possible
- Create an integrated system of care with healthcare professionals working closely together.

The National Policy on Access to Services for Children & Young People with Disability & Developmental Delay ensures that children are directed to the appropriate service based on the complexity of their presenting needs rather than based on diagnosis. Many children with a disability who have support needs can be effectively supported within mainstream health services. This policy provides a single point of entry, signposting parents and referrers to the most appropriate service (Primary Care for non-complex functional difficulties and Children’s Disability Network Teams for complex functional difficulties).

Children’s Disability Network Teams (CDNTs)

In 2021, the remainder of ninety-one Children’s Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) were established to provide services and supports for all children with complex needs within a defined geographic area.

These 91 Children’s Disability Networks (CDN) are aligned to 96 Community Healthcare Networks (CHNs) across the country and each Children’s Disability Network has one CDNT providing services and supports for children aged from birth to 18 years of age.

CDNTs are teams of health and social care professionals, including nursing, occupational therapy, psychology, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy, social work and others. The team will work closely together in a family centred model, focusing on the child’s and family’s own priorities. Every child with complex needs will have access to a team, regardless of the nature of their disability, where they live, or the school they attend.

Children and their families will have access to the full range of services and supports of the CDNT according to their individual needs. This includes universal, targeted and specialist supports, such as individual therapeutic intervention and access to specialist consultation and assessment when needed. Supports will be provided as is feasible in the child’s natural environments - their home, school and community.

The first step for all areas has been the reconfiguration of existing staff resources into CDNTs. The staffing mix available in each area is influenced by the historical development of services. For example, some areas may have had a significant number of nurses available for reconfiguration, others may have family support workers or early educators.

Since 2019, more than 475 development posts have been allocated to children’s disability services across the country. These posts have been assigned based on a number of factors, including the existing ratio of staff to the number of children with disabilities in each area.

The table below provides detail regarding the number of development posts by whole-time equivalent allocated to CDNTs in 2019, 2021 and 2022. The Children’s Disability Networks Governance Group at CHO level, decided the allocation of these posts by discipline and team in line with the governance procedures for CDNTs. The full allocation for 2022 has not yet been agreed, so only those posts that have been allocated are included here.

CDNT Development Posts			
	2019	2021	2022
CHO1	12	15.7	11
CHO2	3.5	15.5	5
CHO3	12	13.4	4
CHO4	6	13.3	14.5
CHO5	15	16	26
CHO6	3.5	32.32	4
CHO7	13	26.6	24.5
CHO8	19	14.95	23.5
CHO9	16	39.55	17.5
Specialist Services			18.5



Total	100	187.32	148.5
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Information regarding the CDNTs in each county can be obtained at:

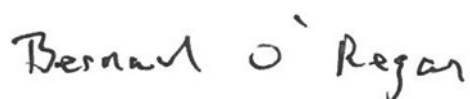
<https://www2.hse.ie/services/disability-support-and-services/childrens-disability-services/find-a-childrens-disability-service.html>

See also Appendix 1 which outlines the CDNTs locations and address.

With regard to the full staff compliment and skills mix in each of the children's disability network teams, the total number and vacant posts, information regarding the staffing of the CDNTs is currently in draft and awaiting validation.

With regard to the waiting lists for services provided by children's disability network teams, historically the number of children waitlisted for children's disability services provided by section 38 and section 39 providers has not been available nationally. The establishment of CDNTs will facilitate the collection of this data. A National Management Information System for all 91 CDNTs is in development and when implemented, will provide current data on waiting lists for all CDNTs. In the interim, manual data collection is on-going and will provide information to the local areas regarding the number of children waiting for each CDNT.

Yours sincerely



Bernard O'Regan
Head of Operations - Disability Services,
Community Operations

Appendix 1

CHO	Network Name	Address
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1	Monaghan	Errigal House, St Davnet's Complex, Monaghan Town
	Cavan (minus West Cavan)	Hillside, Rathcorrck, Co. Cavan H12 NT26
	Leitrim / West Cavan	HSE Community Care Services, Leitrim Road, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim, N41 XC59
	South Donegal Sligo	Old Nazareth House, Church Hill, Sligo
	Donegal South West	Dungloe Public Services Building Dungloe, Co. Donegal
	Donegal North	Scally Place Level 1 Justice Walsh Road Letterkenny Co. Donegal
	Donegal East and Inishowen	HSE 10a Lower Main Street Buncrana Co. Donegal
2	Network 7 Galway North / East	Gilligan House, N17 Business Park, Galway Road, Tuam, H54 XK61
	Network 8 East Galway & South Roscommon	St Brendan's Campus, Lake Road, Loughrea, H62 Y437
	Network 6 Galway City East	35 Lower Newcastle, Newcastle, Galway H91 W934
	Network 5 Galway City West	Enable Ireland, Seamus Quirke Road, Galway, H91 E8P4
	Network 4 Galway West	An tSean Chéibh, Spidéal, H91 XC52
	Network 9 Roscommon	Unit 4 Corraun Park, Racecourse Road, Roscommon, F42 W990
	Network 1 Mayo North	HSE North Mayo Children's Centre, The Newman Institute – First Floor , Cathedral Road, Ballina, Co. Mayo F26YV61
	Network 2 Mayo South	Cedar House, Moneen Road, Castlebar, Co. Mayo, F23 WP71
	Network 3 Mayo West	Safari Club, Unit 12, N 5 Business Park, Moneen, Castlebar, Co. Mayo F23 VH27
3	Blackberry Park	Enable Ireland, Blackberry Park, Ballykeeffe, Limerick
	Treehouse	St. Gabriel's Centre, Springfield Drive, Dooradoyle, Limerick
	East Limerick	Unit 4, Crossgalla, Eastway Business Park, Ballysimon Rd, Limerick
	West Limerick	Gortboy, Newcastle West, Co Limerick
	Clare	Lifford Road, Ennis, Clare
	Limerick South City	14 Parnell Street, Limerick, V94D378
	North Tipperary	Belmont, St. Conlon's Road, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary
4	North Kerry	Upper Church Street, Listowel, Co. Kerry V31 KN50
	West Kerry	Orchard Way, Oakview Village, Oakpark, Tralee, Co. Kerry V92 PW26
	South Kerry	7, Countess Grove, Killarney, Co. Kerry, V93 X527
	West Cork	Children's Services Centre, St Mary's Road, Dunmanway, Co. Cork, P47 EE68
	North West Cork	St. Joseph's Foundation, Baker's Road, Charleville, Co. Cork, P56 KD26
	North East Cork	St. Joseph's Foundation, Baker's Road, Charleville, Co. Cork, P56 KD26
	East Central Cork	Unit 4, Market Green Retail Park, Middleton, P25 R275
	East Cork City	Brothers of Charity Southern Services Ireland, Child & Family Centre, Avenue de Rennes, Mahon
	Central Cork	Cope Foundation, Bridgeway, Penrose Wharf, Penrose Quay, Cork
	North Cork City	Ashville, Cope Foundation, Bonnington, Montenotte, Cork, T23 PT93

	& Blarney	
	West Central Cork	Enable Ireland, Lavanagh Centre, Curaheen, Carrigrohane, Cork T12 D768
	South Cork City	Enable Ireland, Lavanagh Centre, Curaheen, Carrigrohane, Cork T12 D768
	South East Cork City	Enable Ireland, Lavanagh Centre, Curaheen, Carrigrohane, Cork T12 D768
	Bandon / Carrigaline / Kinsale	Carrigaline Primary Care Centre, Estuary Business & Technology Park, Kilnagleary, Cork, P43 PX99
5	Carlow	The Children's Services Centre, Bethany House, Barrack Street, Carlow, R93F8K3
	Thomastown	c/o Children's Services Centre, Kilcreene, Kilkenny, R95 P4AA
	Kilkenny	The O'Neill Centre, St Joseph's Road, Kilkenny, R95 K260
	Cashel	Cnoc Na Ri, St Patricks Campus, Cashel, Tipperary, E25DX72
	Clonmel	South Tipperary Therapy Services (Meehan Complex), Grounds of St Luke's Hospital, Glenconnor Road, Gortmalogue, Clonmel, Co Tipperary
	Dungarvan / West Waterford	HSE Therapy and Assessment Service, Presentation Centre, Mitchell Street, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, X35 YY31
	Waterford South City	Central Remedial Clinic, University Hospital Waterford, Dunmore Road, Waterford, X91 ER8E
	Waterford North City	Johnstown Children's Disability Services, HSE, Johnstown Industrial Estate, Johnstown, Waterford City, X91KW88
	New Ross	New Ross Health Centre, Hospital Grounds, New Ross, Co. Wexford
	Gorey	The Palms, The Avenue, Gorey, Co. Wexford
	Wexford	Disability Services, St. John's Hospital, Munster Hill, Enniscorthy, Co Wexford, Y21N902
	Enniscorthy	Disability Services, St. John's Hospital, Munster Hill, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, Y21N902
6	Sandymount 1	Sandymount Avenue, Dublin 4, D04 T959
	Sandymount 2	Sandymount Avenue, Dublin 4, D04 T959
	Leopardstown 3	Unit 10-11, Leopardstown Shopping Centre, Ballyogan Road, Dublin 18, D18 XE4E
	Leopardstown 4	Unit 10-11, Leopardstown Shopping Centre, Ballyogan Road, Dublin 18, D18 XE4E
	North Wicklow	Marino Centre, Church Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow, A98 W0C6
	Mid Wicklow	Wicklow Primary Healthcare Centre, Knockrobin, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow, A67 P762
	South Wicklow	2nd Floor Avoca River House, The Bridgewater Centre, North Quay, Arklow, Co. Wicklow, Y14 V277
7	North Kildare	2nd Floor HSE Primary Care Centre, Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare, W23 YK24
	Mid Kildare	Enable Ireland, Jigginstown, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 V990
	South Kildare West Wicklow	1st Floor Kildare Primary Care Centre, Old Dublin Rd, Kildare Town, Co Kildare, R51 RX51
	Tymon	Enable Ireland, 2nd Floor, Greenhills Retail Park, Greenhills Road, Dublin 24
	Chamber House	HSE, Chamber House, Belgard Square West, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24 VRC0
	St. Columba's	HSE, St. Columba's, Armagh Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12, D12 YY82
	Ballyboden	Enable Ireland, 2nd Floor, Greenhills Retail Park, Greenhills Road, Dublin 24
	Rosse Court	Stewarts Care, Rossecourt Rescouce Centre, Lucan, Co. Dublin, K78 R9C9
	Clondalkin	CRC Clondalkin, Old Nangor Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22, D22 KF84
	Brú Chaoimhin	HSE, Bru Chaoimhin, Cork Street, Dublin 8, D08 DH31
	Palmerstown	Stewarts Care, Mill Lane, Palmerstown, Dublin 20, D20H329
8	North Louth	Mount Hamilton House, Carrick Road, Dundalk, Co. Louth A91 FY99

	Kells	Climber Hall, Kells, Co.Meath A82Y7W2
	South Louth	Unit 20, Boyne Business Park, Greenhills, Drogheda, Co.Louth, A92 ED91
	Dunshaughlin / East Meath	Unit 14 Aerbridge House, Dunshaughlin Business Park, Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath A85 XP48
	Navan / Slane	Enable Ireland, Unit 13, Mullaghboy Industrial Estate, Navan, Co. Meath C15 C927
	Trim	Bailis Resource Centre, Johnstown, Navan, Co. Meath C15 W303
	Springfield (Mullingar)	Springfield Centre, St Loman's Campus, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath N91 NP30
	Longford	The Phoenix Centre, Mount Carmel, Dublin Road, Longford N39KR23
	Clonbrusk (Athlone)	Clonbrusk Resource Centre, Coosan Road, Athlone, Co. Westmeath N37 C1K2
	Riverside (Tullamore)	Riverside Centre, Riverside, Tullamore, Co. Offaly, R35 EE33
	Portarlington Edenderry	
	Spraoui (Portlaoise)	Spraoui Centre, St. Fintan's Campus, Portlaoise, Co Laois, R32XEN0
9	Balbriggan	Central Remedial Clinic, Penny Ansley Building, Vernon Avenue, Clontarf, Dublin 3 D03 R973
	Swords	Central Remedial Clinic, Penny Ansley Building, Vernon Avenue, Clontarf, Dublin 3 D03 R973
	Coastal Area	St Michael's House Baldoyle, College St., Baldoyle, Dublin 13, D13 W827
	Coolock	Coolock Primary Care Centre, Cromcastle Road, Kilmore, Dublin 5, D05 V026
	Kilbarrack	St Michael's House, Adare Green, Coolock, Dublin 17, D17 EN84
	Finglas	Ashgrove House, Kempton Estate, Navan Road, Dublin 7, D07 E635
	Ballymun	Ballymun Civic Centre, Mainstreet, Ballymun, Dublin 9, D09 C8P5
	Cabra Grangegorman	Central Referrals Office, Daughters of Charity Disability Support Services, St. Vincent's Centre, Navan Rd, Dublin 7, D07 VW14
	North Inner City	Summerhill Primary Care Centre, 46 – 65 Summerhill, Dublin 1, D01 T6C2
	Clontarf	Central Remedial Clinic, Penny Ansley Building, Vernon Avenue, Clontarf, Dublin 3 D03 R973
	Blakestown	Central Referrals Office, Daughters of Charity Disability Support Services, St. Vincent's Centre, Navan Rd, Dublin 7, D07 VW14
	Blanchardstown	Central Referrals Office, Daughters of Charity Disability Support Services, St. Vincent's Centre, Navan Rd, Dublin 7, D07 VW14