



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,
31-33 Catherine Street, Limerick.

T: 00353 (0) 61 483369
Suíomh Gréasáin/Website: <http://www.hse.ie> 2022

6th June 2022

Deputy Martin Browne,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: martin.browne@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Browne,

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 25767/22

To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide details regarding the Parent Consultation Clinic, invitations which are being sent to parents by children's disability network teams; if the purpose of the Parent Consultation Clinic is to develop individual family service plans; when the Parent Consultation Clinic was developed; the stakeholders that were involved in the development of these clinics; the specific reasons for the rollout of Parent Consultation Clinics when other methods of developing individual family service plans have been available; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response

Childrens Disability Network Teams (CDNTs)

91 Childrens Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) have been established to provide services and supports for children aged from birth to 18 years of age. The team will work closely together with the child and family to identify the child's and family's own priorities and agree a plan to address those goals. Children and their families will have access to a range of services and supports of the CDNT according to their individual needs and within available resources. This includes universal interventions such as information sessions, talks and programmes for families on particular topics, targeted interventions for groups of children and/or parents with identified similar needs, e.g. PECS training, Lámh training, Hanen, Incredible Years, and direct interventions for a child and family to address a significant identified need that cannot be met by a universal or targeted intervention.

The Children's Disability Network Teams' (CDNT) model of service is child and family centred where the team work together with the family to identify the important issues from the family's perspective to be addressed, agree a plan to address those issues, implement the plan and monitor the outcomes. This Individual Family Support Plan (IFSP) is a 'live' process in that the team and family keep it under review whilst service supports and strategies are being implemented and as the child and family's needs and achievements change. Each child may benefit from different types of supports depending on their current needs and prioritised issues identified by their family, and this may change over time as the child and family's needs change. For example, sessions by a therapist one on one with a child may be the best option based on need but for another child, joining a group for children with similar needs will achieve better results.

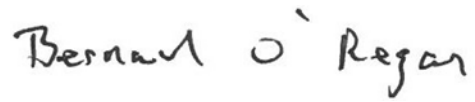
At 31st March 2022, over 11,000 children had current Individual Family Support Plans in place.

The term "*Parent Consultation Clinic*" is not commonly in use among the CDNTs in the Community Healthcare Areas however, Disability Services, South East Community Healthcare Area (CHO 5) has clarified that a family consultation was undertaken by one CDNT in order to engage with families directly where the families did not wish to engage in the

IFSP process. The consultation provided the families with an opportunity to meet with team members in order to progress services for their children.

The HSE is continuing to engage with Minister Rabbitte and Department of Health colleagues to agree how best to support children with disabilities and their families as we implement the CDNT model of service.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bernard O'Regan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

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