



**Leas Stiúirthóir Náisiúnta: Pleanáil Athraithe agus Seachadadh
Seirbhísí Míchumais agus Meabhairshláinte.**

**Assistant National Director: Change Planning and Delivery
Disability and Mental Health Services.**

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9th May 2023

Deputy Mark Ward,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: mark.ward@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Ward,

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: 19625/23

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth if he will provide an update on the recruitment process for neurorehabilitation teams under the national strategy for neurorehabilitation in CHO6 and CHO7; the reason for the delays; 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.

In order to test the feasibility of this new MCRN model in the Irish context, a decision was made by the Neuro-Rehab Steering Group to run two demonstrator projects within CHO6 and CHO7, which was expanded in the 2023 budget to include CHO2 and CHO4 to assess the feasibility of the model to inform national roll-out. A location has been agreed for the Community Neuro-Rehabilitation Teams



within CHO 6 and CHO 7 and negotiations are ongoing to agree a governance model for the teams in order to be able to proceed with recruitment. Recruitment for these teams will commence in Q2 and teams are planned to be operational in Q3 2023.

Within CHO 2 and CHO 4, initial meetings have taken place to initiate the creation of a Local Implementation Group (LIG) who will drive the creation of the CNRT within the CHO, identify a location for these teams, as well as agree a governance model. The recruitment process for the CNRT team leads has begun with recruitment of the remaining posts commencing in Q3. These teams are planned to be operational before the end of 2023.

Yours Sincerely,



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

