



**Ceannasaí Seirbhíse do
Dhaoine Faoi Mhíchumas**

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1st February 2023

Mr Richard Bruton, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Email: richard.bruton@oireachtas.ie

PQ 1232/23 To ask the Minister for Health if there are plans to address the urgent need to recruit additional staff for children's disability network teams in order to address lengthy waiting lists for early intervention in the north Dublin area; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Bruton,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you with information in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The 12 Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) in CHO Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) are currently managed by 4 Lead Agencies, St Michael's House, Avista, Central Remedial Clinic and the HSE.

Recruitment and retention within children's disabilities are two of the highest priorities for CHO DNCC and for the lead agencies. Concurrently and separately to CHO DNCC, lead agencies are actively engaged in recruitment. In addition we have also engaged an international recruitment agency to find suitable candidates overseas and our teams are scheduling interviews on a weekly basis for all interested eligible applicants. To date we have made job offers to 15 staff through this initiative which have gone forward to the contracting stage.

We also promote vacancies widely on our social media including the development of a CHO DNCC specific LinkedIn page. This page regularly publishes promotional videos from a wide range of disciplines working on our CDNTs to inform interested professionals of the many positive aspects of working on CDNTs. The Heads of HR from all agencies are also looking at a wide number of training programmes with focus to support skill development and staff retention.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Olive Hanley
Head of Service for Disability