



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

Office of the Head of Operations,
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20th June 2023

Deputy Roisin Shortall,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: roisin.shortall@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Shortall,

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 27845/23

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth if exit interviews or questionnaires are conducted when staff leave Children's Disability Network Teams; if so, to provide analysis of the responses given; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response

91 Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) are aligned to 96 Community Healthcare Networks (CHNs) across the country and are 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, dietetics and others. The team works closely together in a family centred model, focusing on the child's and family's own priorities.

Staff on CDNTs may be employed by the HSE or by one of the Section 38 or Section 39 partner organisations. All staff on the CDNTs report to a Children's Disability Network Manager who is employed by one of the eleven Lead Agencies. Each employer and lead agency will have their own distinct HR processes. While the HSE requires the CDNTs to conduct exit interviews with staff, the information arising from these interviews is not collated nationally.

Most of the disciplines working in CDNTs are similar to those working in other areas of the health services including Primary Care Services, Mental Health Services, Older Person Services and Acute Hospitals. The HSE experiences ongoing challenges recruiting staff across a range of disciplines and grades.

The HSE continues to explore a range of options to enhance the retention and recruitment of essential staff across all aspects of the health services. In addition, the HSE is working collaboratively with the



CDNT Lead Agencies at CHO level to market CDNTs as an employer of choice in a competitive employment market. Each lead agency is responsible for recruitment of staff on their CDNTs and is using a variety of approaches to fill funded vacancies.

Yours sincerely,

Bernard O'Regan

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