



Cúram Sláinte
Phobail, Iarthar
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,
Maighéo agus Ros Comáin

Community
Healthcare West
serving Galway, Mayo
and Roscommon

Children's Disability Manager
Community Healthcare West
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23rd June 2023

Seán Canney TD
Dail Eireann
Kildare St
Dublin 2

PQ/28734/23

"To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth if he is aware that there are huge gaps in the provision of services within the CDNT based in Tuam, with only one occupational therapist for over 700 children and only one speech and language therapist for 700 children; the immediate plans that are in place to provide the correct level of supports for children with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter"

Dear Deputy Canney

I refer to PQ/28734/23 uploaded on the PAD System on the 9th June 2023 and due for response on the 26th June 2023 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth concerning "that there are huge gaps in the provision of services within the CDNT based in Tuam, with only one occupational therapist for over 700 children and only one speech and language therapist for 700 children; the immediate plans that are in place to provide the correct level of supports for children with disabilities; and if he will make a statement on the matter". The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

I have been in contact with the Children's Disability Network Manager of Children's Disability Network Team 7 (CDNT7) who has advised that there are currently 3 Occupational Therapists (OT) and 4.5 Speech and Language Therapists (SLT) on the CDNT.

Three vacancies remain for OT and two for SLT. Efforts are ongoing to support recruitment into the CDNT through the usual HSE recruitment process, while also exploring agency and recruitment through partnering organisations.

CDNT 7 are committed to providing the relevant supports to all children in the service that is responsive to need and supports families. Please be assured of our best efforts at all times.

I trust that this response has clarified the matter that you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely

Children's Disability Manager
Community Healthcare West