



3rd July 2023

Mr Denis Naughten, TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Email: denis.naughten@oireachtas.ie

PQ 29353/23 *“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of vacant roles in occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and psychology broken down by discipline in each CDNT in CHO9; and if he will make a statement on the matter” Denis Naughten T.D.*

Dear Deputy Naughten,

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 Children’s Disability Network Teams and Lead Agencies (Central Remedial Clinic, Avista, St Michael’s House and HSE) have worked closely together to manage the change process, mitigate risks and promote the new model of service across the 12 CDNTs in Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC). The introduction of CDNTs represented an evidence-based fundamental shift to a child and family centred model of care. This model of service sees a family set and achieve their own goals, supported by an interdisciplinary team. The ultimate goal of this approach is to enable children to flourish at home and in their communities.

The following are the list of vacant roles per WTE in occupational therapy (OT), speech and language therapy (SLT), physiotherapy and psychology broken down by discipline in each CDNT in CHO DNCC:

CDNT Network	OT	SLT	Physiotherapist	Psychologist
Balbriggan	1	3.5	3.4	4
Swords	1.1	2.7	0.12	1.5
Coastal	1	0	1.5	1
Coolock	1	0	0	0
Kilbarrack	2.8	0	2.1	3.6
Finglas	1	0.60	0	1
NIC	2	0	1.5	1
Ballymun	0.25	1	0	0
Cabra/Grangegorman	1.5	3	0	2
Clontarf	1	0.80	2	0.33
Blanchardstown	0.5	1	0	1
Blakestown	3	3	2	4
Total	16.15 WTE	15.60 WTE	12.62 WTE	19.43 WTE

HSE CHO DNCC Disability Services with the CRC, SMH and AVISTA are running a targeted local and international recruitment campaigns for the staff grades referenced above and interviews are ongoing. Concurrently CHO DNCC have undertaken to increase administrative support to all the CDNTs, to enable existing clinical staff to devote more of their time directly to children and families.

I trust this information clarifies this matter for you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Olive Hanley", is written over a horizontal line.

Ms Olive Hanley
Head of Service for Disability