



Ceannasaí Seirbhíse do
Dhaoine Faoi Mhíchumas

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14th March 2023

Mr Paul Donnelly, TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Email: paul.donnelly@oireachtas.ie

PQ 11201/23 *"To ask the Minister for Health the number of full-time autism therapists and autism support workers in each of the disability network teams in CHO9, in 2021, 2022 and to-date in 2023, in tabular form"*
Paul Donnelly, TD

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

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.

Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) does not employ Autism therapists or Autism Support Workers. The Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) established in September 2021, under the Progressing Disability Services programme support children with complex needs requiring inter-disciplinary supports. Access to the service is not dependent on a specific diagnosis. The range of disciplines working on the Children's Disability Network Teams in CHO DNCC includes Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists, Social Workers and Psychologists. Some teams have roles for Family Support Workers, Social Care Workers, Nurses and Home Teachers. All of these staff may be involved at different times supporting children with autism.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Olive Hanley
Head of Service for Disability