

11th April 2023

Brendan Smith T.D.
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 15934/23

“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the progress that has been made to date in enhancing the role of therapy assistants to provide treatment for children, particularly in disciplines where there are unacceptable delays in children accessing services, such as Cavan and Monaghan, due to a lack of therapists; and if he will make a statement on the matter”.

Dear Deputy Smith

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

The Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) in Cavan and Monaghan have a number of vacancies across their senior and staff grade therapy positions. The teams have considered the use of assistant therapists to complement the service.

It is important for the teams to have senior therapists in situ in order to provide training and support for the assistant therapists, this has been the reasons for the delay in regrading some of the positions.

The Children's Disability Network Managers for Cavan and Monaghan CDNTs are currently reviewing the training and support required for the assistant therapists within the team. When the CDNT managers have completed this piece of work, they will explore the possible regrading of the current positions to assistant therapist posts.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Edel Quinn
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Ceann na Seirbhíse Míchumas
Eagraíocht Chúram Sláinte Limistéar CDLMS