



Oifig an Stiúrthóir Cúnta Náisiúnta,
Foireann Míchumais Náisiúnta,
An Chéad Urlár - Oifigí 13, 14, 15,
Áras Phlásóg na Rós, Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,
Páirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta,
Caladh an Treoigh,
Luimneach.

Office of the Assistant National Director,
National Disability Team,
First Floor- Offices 13, 14, 15,
Roselawn House, University Business Complex,
National Technology Park,
Castletroy,
Limerick.

16th July 2024

Deputy Fergus O'Dowd
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: fergus.odowd@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy O'Dowd,

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: 29118/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the total funding provided to each of the CHO areas for CDNT services from 2015 to date, including the total numbers of population served in each of the relevant CHOs, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response

Children's Disability services in Ireland are currently undergoing a major reform process. During 2021, reconfiguration of children's disability services, under the Progressing Disability Services model, took place with the establishment of Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) to provide services for children with complex needs in the State.

These 93 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.

These teams provide for approximately 5.6% of the total child disability population, i.e. over 70,000 children and their families nationally.

The model of service for all CDNTs is family-centred and based on the needs of the child. This includes universal, targeted and specialised supports and interventions, as appropriate to the individual child and family. It is based on the objectives of empowering and supporting parents and others who are with the child on a daily basis to facilitate the child's developmental needs.



The CDNTs are currently providing services and supports for over 46,000 children and strategies and supports for urgent cases on the waitlist where staffing resources allow. However, there are significant challenges for CDNTs including:

- Significant staffing vacancies
- Growth in numbers of children with complex need
- Growth in demand for Assessment of Need, diverting further resources away from interventions

Children’s Disability Network Teams were established based on a reconfiguration of the existing resources that were available in each area. The allocation of staff to each team was based on a number of factors including the population size and the available skill mix.

With regard to the specific questions asked, while many CDNTs were in place, all CDNTs were not fully established until Quarter 4 2021.

While funding is allocated each year to the CHO areas for the provision of services, the CHOs at local level make the determinations re the allocation of funding for services including children’s disability services.

In addition, including the HSE, there are 49 Lead Agencies for the CDNTs. Funding is allocated by the CHO areas to the Lead agencies for the provision of services.

However, we can provide a snapshot in time as of mid year 2021, the pay, pay related and non pay costs related to all staff approved in CDNTs at that time at CHO level. Please see Table 1 below.

Table 1

2021 CDNT Pay, Pay Related and Non Pay Costs confirmed		
CHO	Total CDNT WTE Staff	Total CDNT Pay, Pay Related (15%) and Non Pay (12%) costs
1	144.57	€10,740,771
2	218.64	€16,220,210
3	167.8	€12,674,396
4	278.49	€20,792,116
5	164.47	€12,153,629
6	166.6	€12,875,832
7	245.17	€18,229,017
8	243.18	€18,000,596
9	239.52	€17,734,856
	1868.44	€139,421,424

With regard to population served in each CHO area, please see Table 2 (next page) which gives information on the numbers on the CDNT open caseload per CHO area.

In addition, there are children on the waiting lists for the CDNTs, some of whom are in receipt of strategies and supports from the CDNTs. Please see Table 2.



Table 2

National CDNT Interim metrics- BIU data – end of May 2024										
Metric	CHO 1	CHO 2	CHO 3	CHO 4	CHO 5	CHO 6	CHO 7	CHO 8	CHO 9	TOTAL
No. of children on open caseload @ month end	8,709	4,476	5,854	6,875	3,336	2,598	4,518	6,042*	3,876	42,096
Number of children on waiting list	1,079	838	1361	775	1,740	1,334	2,634	1,977	2,865	14,603

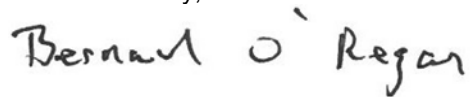
National Information Management System for the CDNTs (CDNT IMS)

A National Management Information System for all 93 CDNTs (CDNT-IMS) when fully implemented, will provide contemporaneous activity data for all CDNTs.

The project intention is to provide a single, uniform system for the administration of disability services by the 93 CDNTs. The rollout of CDNT IMS to all CDNTs is taking place on a phased basis

Pending full roll-out, manual data collection is on-going.

Yours Sincerely,



Bernard O'Regan
Assistant National Director
National Disability Team

