



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.

15th April 2025

Deputy Barry Heneghan,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: barry.heneghan@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Heneghan,

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: 17642/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth if she will commit funding in Budget 2026 to establish a community neurorehabilitation team for the north Dublin area (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Details supplied: We currently have a postcode lottery, where access to a community neurorehabilitation team across the Dublin area depends on where you live. Teams are coming on board in 2025 to provide access to neurological patients in the West and South of the city, meanwhile services such as the national neuroscience centre in Beaumont Hospital and the national trauma centre in the Mater hospital are in an area of Dublin which still has received no funding to establish a community neurorehabilitation team. This team was promised in 2019 within the Implementation Framework for the National Neurorehabilitation Strategy. The current Programme for Government commits to completing the national rollout of community neurorehabilitation teams. The Neurological Alliance of Ireland, the national umbrella for 40 neurological charities, are calling for this commitment to be delivered in the upcoming budget by funding teams for North Dublin, Midlands, South East and North West, the four areas of the country which to date have not received funding for a community neurorehabilitation team.

HSE Response

The Programme for Government – 'Our Shared Future' - includes a commitment for advancing neuro-rehabilitation services in the community. The Health Service Executive is leading on the implementation framework in respect of the recommendations of the National Policy and Strategy for the provision of Neuro-Rehabilitation Services in Ireland 2011-2015.

The Neuro-Rehabilitation Strategy Implementation Framework (IF) was launched in February 2019. The overarching aim of the Strategy is the development of neuro-rehabilitation services to improve patient outcomes by providing safe, high quality, person-centred Neuro-Rehabilitation at the lowest appropriate level of complexity. This must be integrated



across the care pathway and provided as close to home as possible or in specialist centres where necessary. These services are to be configured into population based Managed Clinical Rehabilitation Networks (MCRNs). The overarching aim is the development of population based MCRN's around the country.

Funding was secured for a 12 WTE Community Neuro-Rehabilitation Team (CNRT) in HSE Galway, Roscommon and Mayo, HSE South West, HSE Dublin South and Wicklow and HSE Dublin South West, South City and West and Kildare West Wicklow. Recruitment is progressing for these teams and moving toward onboarding.

There are two CNRTs in existence in HSE Donegal and HSE Mid West that predate the strategy. Estimates bids were submitted to Budget 2025 to uplift these existing teams. There is currently no CNRT operational in HSE Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary South, Waterford/Wexford, HSE Midlands and HSE Dublin and North East. Estimates bids were submitted to Budget 2025 to fund a CNRT in those IHAs/RHA including HSE Dublin and North East that do not currently have a CNRT.

Moving forward with the strategy, the plan will be to enhance the existing CNRTs, fund those IHAs/RHA that do not have a CNRT and to create a large population-based Community Neuro-Rehabilitation Team (CNRT) within each RHA following the implementation of the new Regional Health Areas within Slaintecare.

The Disability Action Plan outlines a team of 18 WTE per CHO by 2026 to be reconfigured into one larger CNRT per RHA. Estimates bids will be submitted to Budget 2026 to enhance existing teams and fund CNRTs in those IHAs/RHAs that do not have funding for CNRT.

The HSE continues to engage with DCEDIY through the annual budgetary process to secure the necessary funding to establish this essential service in such a way that there is equity of access for those who need it regardless of where they live.

As per the 2025 National Service Plan the HSE is committed to develop Community Neuro-Rehabilitation Teams (CNRTs) in line with the *Neuro-Rehabilitation Implementation Framework* (2019) and enhance capacity for its implementation nationally

Yours Sincerely,

**Gerry Tully,
Assistant National Director,
Access and Integration,
Disability Services**

