



26<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Mr. Liam Quaide TD  
Dail Eireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ 20445/25**

**To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth for the children's disability network team staffing levels, by discipline and by grade and per population size served, in each integrated health area of the Dublin and south east regional health area as of 1 April 2025.**

Dear Deputy Quaide,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

*I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.*

In line with the Progressing Disability Services model, Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) are aligned to Community Healthcare Networks (CHNs) across the country and are providing services and supports for children aged from birth to 18 years of age. Each CDNT covers a specific geographical area and holds a waiting list for children with complex needs residing in that area. 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.

Appendix 1 attached provides the approved staffing levels for the CDNTs across the integrated healthcare areas in HSE Dublin and South East. In addition, the population of children and adolescents is also provided.

The CDNTs are currently providing services and supports for children where staffing resources allow. However, there are significant challenges for CDNTs including:

- Staffing challenges
- Growth in numbers of children with complex needs as a result of their disability.
- Growth in demand for Assessment of Need

As with other areas, Disability Services continue to experience significant recruitment challenges. The HSE is operating in a very competitive market as there are significant shortages of qualified healthcare professionals nationally and internationally. HSE Dublin and South East continue to prioritise disability posts for all disciplines and to express posts out to current national panels where relevant.



The HSE optimises multiple applicant engagement opportunities to encourage uptake of CDNT vacancies including recruitment fairs, outreach to third level colleges and secondary schools, presence at national events and virtual engagements.

The HSE acknowledge that waiting times for CDNT service at this time are not appropriate and stressful for children and their families and will continue to explore a range of options to enhance the recruitment and retention of essential staff into our CDNTs.

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

Yours sincerely,

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**Martina Queally**  
**Regional Executive Officer**



## Appendix: HSE Dublin and South East CDNT Staffing by IHA

### IHA Carlow, Kilkenny Tipperary South and IHA Waterford and Wexford

	WTE											
Grade	CDNT1	CDNT2	CDNT3	CDNT4	CDNT5	CDNT6	CDNT7S	CDNT7 N	CDNT8	CDNT9	CDNT 10	CDNT 11
Children's Disability Network Manager	1.00	0.8	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Clerical Officer	2.00	2.00	0.5	1.82	1.6	1.4	2.00	2.00	0.85	1.00	0.8	2.00
Clinical Nurse Manager (CDM) 2	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.0	0.00	0.5	1.00	0.7	1.00	1.00
Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Clinical Nurse Specialist (ID)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dietician, Senior	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.5	1.00	1.00
Enhanced Nurse (ID)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grade IV	0.00	0.00	0.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grade V	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Occupational Therapist (OT)	1.5	1.00	2.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00
OT Manager	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
OT, Senior	3.8	2.6	3.38	2.99	1.5	3.5	0.8	3.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	3.00
OT, Assistant	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Physiotherapist (PT)	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.5	0.00	1.00
PT Senior	3.00	1.00	1.79	2.00	1.00	2.00	0.6	1.87	0.7	1.5	1.6	1.8
PT Manager	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
PT Assistant	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Play Therapist, Senior	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Psychologist Assistant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
Psychologist, Clinical	2.00	1.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.8	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00



Psychologist, Principal Clinical	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Psychologist, Senior Clinical	1.5	0.8	1.8	2.1	2.00	2.00	2.14	2.00	1.00	0.8	2.00	2.00
Social Care Manager	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Social Care Worker	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Social Care Leader	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
Social Worker	2.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00
Social Worker, Principal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Social Worker, Senior Medical	1.00	0.9	0.77	0.63	1.00	0.8	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	2.00
Social Worker, Team Leader	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Speech & Language Therapist (SLT)	2.00	2.00	1.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	3.00
SLT Senior	2.8	0.8	4.00	3.7	2.00	2.8	3.00	2.00	1.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
SLT Manager	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
SLT Therapy Assistant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Staff Nurse – PHN General	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.5	1.00	0.00	0.64	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Teacher	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Therapy Assistant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total WTE</b>	<b>25.61</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>23.74</b>	<b>22.74</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>17.52</b>	<b>18.17</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>24.8</b>

**Note:** This table indicates the staff compliment allocated per CDNT. It does not reflect the current vacancy level.



## IHA Dublin South and Wicklow

Grade	WTE CDNT1	WTE CDNT2	WTE CDNT3	WTE CDNT4	WTE CDNT5	WTE CDNT6	WTE CDNT7
Children's Disability Network Manager	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Clerical Officer	1.00	0.68	1.00	2.00	1.41	0.80	1.00
Clinical Nurse Manager (CDM) 2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
Clinical Nurse Specialist (General)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00
Clinical Nurse Specialist (ID)	1.00	0.95	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.50	0.97
Dietician, Senior	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.00
Enhanced Nurse (ID)	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grade IV	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.57	0.00	0.00
Grade V	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Occupational Therapist (OT)	3.80	3.00	3.00	2.00	3.00	2.00	0.00
OT Manager	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
OT, Senior	3.01	1.50	5.52	4.30	4.16	2.00	2.00
OT, Assistant	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
Physiotherapist (PT)	2.00	2.00	0.81	0.00	3.00	1.00	0.00
PT Senior	0.00	1.00	2.00	2.30	2.09	1.00	0.00
PT Manager	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00
PT Assistant	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.00	0.58
Play Therapist, Senior	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
Psychologist Assistant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.00
Psychologist, Clinical	1.00	2.00	1.00	2.00	0.60	0.60	0.00
Psychologist, Principal Clinical	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00
Psychologist, Senior Clinical	3.30	1.00	3.00	3.60	4.32	1.61	2.57
Social Care Manager	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
Social Care Worker	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.95





Social Worker	1.50	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.70	1.00
Social Worker, Principal	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.00
Social Worker, Senior Medical	0.80	1.50	0.00	1.00	1.60	1.00	0.50
Social Worker, Team Leader	0.00	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Speech & Language Therapist (SLT)	3.00	2.92	2.00	1.00	2.70	1.02	1.43
SLT Senior	3.50	2.92	4.00	3.80	4.89	2.84	1.00
SLT Manager	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.50	0.00
SLT Therapy Assistant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.53	0.00	0.00
Staff Nurse - General	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.55	0.00
Teacher	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00
Therapy Assistant	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.00
<b>Total WTE</b>	<b>30.91</b>	<b>24.97</b>	<b>29.83</b>	<b>30.70</b>	<b>41.60</b>	<b>21.12</b>	<b>15.50</b>

**Note:** This table indicates the staff compliment allocated per CDNT. It does not reflect the current vacancy level.

#### Population 0-18 years - HSE Dublin and South East Region and IHAs

Dublin and South East Region	IHA Carlow, Kilkenny and Tipperary South	IHA Waterford and Wexford	IHA Dublin South and Wicklow
236,767	62,704	76,281	97,782