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4th July 2025

Deputy Alan Kelly
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Email: alan.kelly@Oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 35162/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the reason there is only one speech and language therapist (SLT) working in the early intervention services team in Nenagh, County Tipperary and if there are any plans to increase that number as that SLT has to cover all of the north Tipperary area.

Dear Deputy Kelly,

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

I can confirm that the North Tipperary Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) currently have an allocation of three Senior Speech and Language Therapists (SLT) and two staff grade Speech and Language Therapists.

The team has one vacant Senior SLT post as of June 2025 which is in active recruitment and one Senior SLT post holder is on maternity leave. As a result, the team currently has one staff grade SLT allocated to the Spraoi (0-9 years) team. There is one staff grade SLT and one Senior SLT allocated to the Sonas (9-18 years) team. This Senior SLT also supports the staff grade Spraoi SLT as capacity allows.

There are no plans to increase the allocation to the North Tipperary CDNT at this time.

I trust this clarifies the situation, but should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mary O'Malley
Head of Service
Disability Services, HSE Mid West