



31st March 2025

Mr Robert O'Donoghue, TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Email: robert.odonoghue@oireachtas.ie

PQ 14109/25 *"To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the percentage level of staffing in each Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) in Fingal; the average wait time, in months, for a first appointment for a child referred to each CDNT at the current staffing level in Fingal; and the estimated average wait time, in months, for a first appointment for a child referred to each CDNT in Fingal if staffing were at 100%, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter."* - **Robert O'Donoghue, TD**

Dear Deputy O'Donoghue,

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

St Michaels House (SMH), Avista, the Central Remedial Clinic (CRC) and the HSE are lead agencies for various of the 12 CDNTs as reflected in the tables below. The below table provides the staffing complement for each CDNT across Integrated Health Area Dublin North County (IHA DNC) and Integrated Health Area Dublin North City and West (IHA DNCW) as of the end February 2025. IHA DNC and IHA DNCW include Fingal and parts of Dublin City Council. Staffing complement includes, Health and Social Care professionals, administration staff and the Network Manager. The figures below are represented in Whole Time Equivalent (WTE).

	Staff Allocation WTE	Staff in Place WTE	Current Vacancy WTE	Current Vacancy %
HSE North Inner City CDNT	16.98	14.98	2.00	11.77%
HSE Finglas CDNT	27.96	22.56	5.40	19.31%
CRC Clontarf CDNT	24.83	17.88	6.95	27.99%
CRC Swords CDNT	26.74	13.61	13.13	49.10%
CRC Balbriggan CDNT	31.01	18.49	12.52	40.37%
Avista Blanchardstown CDNT	23.14	20.59	2.55	11.01%
Avista Blakestown CDNT	26.35	22.05	4.30	16.31%
Avista Cabra CDNT	30.60	25.60	5.00	16.33%
SMH Coastal CDNT	20.25	17.90	2.35	11.60%
SMH Coolock CDNT	17.05	12.55	4.50	26.39%
SMH Ballmun CDNT	21.41	14.51	6.90	32.22%
SMH Kilbarrack CDNT	27.20	21.00	6.20	22.79%

The below table provides the number of children on the waiting list and wait times for each CDNT IHA DNC and IHA DNCW as of the end February 2025.

	0-3 Months	4-6 Months	7-12 Months	Over 12 Months
HSE North Inner City CDNT	5	6	6	48
HSE Finglas CDNT	4	14	17	66
CRC Clontarf CDNT	7	9	16	124
CRC Swords CDNT	25	7	17	428
CRC Balbriggan CDNT	10	13	29	539
Avista Blanchardstown CDNT	3	6	11	114
Avista Blakestown CDNT	1	4	16	374
Avista Cabra CDNT	2	2	5	172
SMH Coastal CDNT	0	3	3	42
SMH Coolock CDNT	2	1	1	101
SMH Ballmun CDNT	2	2	10	83
SMH Kilbarrack CDNT	3	0	3	235

St Michaels House (SMH), Avista, the Central Remedial Clinic (CRC) and the HSE appreciate the waiting times some children and their families are experiencing are unsatisfactory and apologise. We are collectively mindful of the needs of children awaiting services and are actively working to reduce the waiting times for some services. The CDNTs support families of children whilst they may be awaiting services through various waiting list initiatives. The Initiatives available include access to webinars, workshops, advice clinics, group interventions among other options. Each parent and child may contact their CDNT locally for details on same.

I trust this information clarifies this matter for you and again I am sorry for the delay some children and families may experience.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Olive Hanley
Head of Service for Disability
Covering Integrated Health Areas of Dublin North County and
Dublin North City & West