

**Ceann na Seirbhíse Míchumas**

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Slainte
Seirbhísi Pobaill (An Cabhán, Dún na
nGall, Liatroim, Muineachán &
Sligeach)
Áras Isacc Butt, Bealach Féich,
Tír Chonaill F93 YV9R

Head of Service Disability

HSE Community Services (Cavan,
Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan & Sligo)
The Isacc Butt Building, Ballybofey
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19th October 2025

Martin Kenny T.D.
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Re: PQ ref 52012/25

To ask the Minister for Health if her Department will provide funding for a multiple sclerosis community worker for Sligo and Leitrim; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Kenny,

Community Services Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo (CS CDLMS) Disability Services have been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health, for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Firstly HSE Disability Services are funded for the provision of Specialt Community Based Disability Services by the Department of Children, Disability and Equality (DCDE0. Currently, there is no funding allocation to the HSE CS CDLMS Disability Services' budget for the purpose of employing a Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Ireland Community Worker in the Sligo/ Leitrim area.

MS Ireland has submitted a business case for the recruitment of an MS Ireland Community Worker in the Sligo/Leitrim area to the HSE Physical and Sensory Disability Service. This has been reviewed by the Disability Services Manager and further information is required prior to submission to the Head of Service, Disability Services for CS CDLMS.

The following supports to people with MS are in place in the Sligo area:

- The HSE Physical & Sensory (P&S) Disability Service provides a Case Co-ordination and a Social Work service. The P&S Disability Service also funds Home Support and Personal Assistant (PA) services for individuals in line with their assessed needs.
- The MS North West Therapy Centre, which receives funding through a Service Arrangement annually from HSE Disability Services, aims to enrich the lives of people with MS and related neurological conditions by providing the following services and supports to clients and their families:
 - Physiotherapy, on a one to one basis.
 - Telehealth consultations.
 - Dry needling.
 - Online exercise classes, including circuit classes, chair based classes, upper limb classes and strength classes.
 - Specific equipment assessments.
 - Midday meditation sessions.
 - Alternative therapies including hyperbaric oxygen treatment, reflexology and counselling.
 - Peer Support Group.

➤ Foot Care Clinic.

People with MS in the Sligo Leitrim area also have access to HSE community based services such as Occupational Therapy and Orthotics.

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

Yours sincerely,

Edel Quinn

Head of Service Disability Services

Community Services Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo

Seirbhísi Pobail An Cabhán, Dún na nGall, Liatroim, Muineachán & Sligeach



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The Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) within Community Healthcare Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo Disability Services, which currently have vacant psychology posts and the estimated timeframe for filling each of the vacancies.

CDNT	Vacant Staff Grade Psychology Posts	Vacant Senior Psychology Posts	Vacant Clinical Specialist Psychology Posts	Vacant Assistant Psychology Posts	Total Number of Vacant Posts	Time Frame for Posts Being Filled
Cavan	1 WTE	2 WTE			3 WTE	The 3 WTE posts are at offer stage. Approximately 3 weeks until the posts are filled.
Donegal North	1 WTE	1 WTE		1 WTE	3 WTE	1 WTE Staff Grade - Vacant due to Statutory Leave. 1 WTE Senior Psychology - This post is in the recruitment process with the National Recruitment Service NRS. 1 WTE Assistant Psychology - This post is in the recruitment process with the National Recruitment Service NRS.
Leitrim / West Cavan			1 WTE		1 WTE	Unable to fill this position on two occasions – requesting the grade of the position to be changed. Unknown timeline.
Monaghan	1 WTE				1 WTE	Approved.
Total	3 WTE	3 WTE	1 WTE	1WTE	8 WTE	