



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.

17th September 2025

Deputy Grace Boland,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: grace.boland@oireachtas.ie

PQ: 47289/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the way in which resource allocations are determined for CDNT and primary care by the HSE; if they are determined on population numbers; and how often the allocation is reviewed; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Boland,

Thank you for your Parliamentary Question referenced above, which has been forwarded to me for direct reply.

Estimates Process and Multi Annual Investment

The Health Act 2004 Section 31 (1) and (2) states that within 21 days after the publication by Government of the Estimates for supply services for the financial year or such other period as the Minister may allow, the Executive shall:

a) Prepare in accordance with this section, a service plan for the financial year or any other period as may be determined by the Minister,

And

b) Adopt the plan so prepared and submit it to the Minister for approval.

Each year, based on government direction and the economic environment, the HSE establishes a process and accountability route to identify financial and human resource requirements for the following year for the totality of the organisation.

This typically includes:

Existing Levels of Service, Service Priorities, Government Policy, Strategic Direction of HSE and service efficiencies / initiatives. For example, the 2025 HSE Service Plan was prepared in line with our strategic priorities for the coming years. The Plan was guided by:

- The Programme for Government
- Priorities set by the Minister for Health and Minister for Children, Disability and Equality.
- The policy framework, Sláintecare
- Action Plan for Disability Services 2024-2026.

Each year, prior to publications of the Budget and the publication of the annual Service Plan, the HSE participates in the Estimates Process with the Department of Health and the Department of Children, Disability and Equality and makes a submission for additional monies to meet the health and social care needs of the population it services.

The Disability Service makes submissions for additional funding for all services including Childrens Disability Services, Day, Residential, Respite, Home Support/PA hours, Multi-Disciplinary Posts, Neuro Rehab monies as a key element of its submission. Any new funding secured is allocated to the health regions to provide services to those with the greatest need (priority basis).



With regard to Childrens Disability Network Teams, allocation of resources is based on a combination of a population based health approach including:

- Children with disability population
- Social deprivation index
- Existing senior and staff grade posts

Similarly, from a Primary Care perspective, relevant business cases are prepared and submitted to the Department of Health in collaboration with HSE Planning and Performance colleagues through the established estimates process. Where the Department's Primary Care Division considers the relevant HSE submissions to have merit, they are included in the Department's process for consideration of funding. If subsequently approved, the HSE Primary Care team will accept and progress these initiatives, with funding allocated based on identified need. Where there is a whole-population requirement, population size may be used as the basis for allocation. However, in many cases, existing services, current funding, and demand modelling may also need to be considered prior to allocation, if not already addressed within the business case.

The HSE makes every effort to secure appropriate multi-annual investment for services via the Estimates process and is very conscious of the need to deliver disability policy on a more sustainable footing given the significant levels of need for increased and more effective services and supports to enable people with a disability to live independent lives in their own community.

Budget 2026 will be published in October 2025 however, granular detail regarding the allocation of funding for various services will not be known until the Service Plan for 2026 is published.

Yours Sincerely,

Tom McGuirk,
General Manager, Disability Services, Access & Integration