



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,
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23rd September 2025

Deputy Sorcha Clarke,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: sorcha.clake@oireachtas.ie

PQ: 48661/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality the timeline for the full national rollout of community neurorehabilitation teams, and if she will make a statement on the matter.

PQ: 48662/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality if her Department has assessed the regional disparities in access to neurorehabilitation services identified in a survey carried out by an organisation (The Neurological Alliance of Ireland's 2024 "The Right to Care in the Right Place"); and the steps being taken to ensure equitable access across all counties.

Dear Deputy Clarke,

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

The Programme for Government – 'Securing Ireland's Future' - includes a commitment for advancing neuro-rehabilitation services in the community. The Health Service Executive is leading on the implementation framework in respect of the recommendations of the National Policy and Strategy for the provision of Neuro-Rehabilitation Services in Ireland 2011-2015.

The Neuro-Rehabilitation Strategy Implementation Framework (IF) was launched in February 2019. The overarching aim of the Strategy is the development of neuro-rehabilitation services to improve patient outcomes by providing safe, high quality, person-centred Neuro-Rehabilitation at the lowest appropriate level of complexity. This must be integrated across the care pathway and provided as close to home as possible or in specialist centres where necessary. These services are to be configured into population based Managed Clinical Rehabilitation Networks (MCRNs). The overarching aim is the development of population based MCRN's around the country.

Funding was secured for a 12 WTE Community Neuro-Rehabilitation Team (CNRT) in HSE Galway, Roscommon and Mayo, HSE South West, HSE Dublin South and Wicklow and HSE Dublin South West, South City and West and Kildare West Wicklow. Recruitment is progressing for these teams and all four teams are being onboarded.

There are two CNRTs in existence in HSE Donegal and HSE Mid West that predate the strategy. Estimates bids will be submitted to Budget 2026 to uplift these existing teams. There is currently no CNRT operational in HSE Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary South, Waterford/Wexford, HSE Midlands and HSE Dublin and North East. Estimates bids will be submitted in Budget 2026 to fund a CNRT in those IHAs/RHA that do not currently have a CNRT.

Moving forward with the strategy, the plan will be to enhance the existing CNRTs, fund those IHAs/RHA that do not have a CNRT and to create a large population-based Community Neuro-Rehabilitation Team (CNRT) within each RHA following the implementation of the new Regional Health Areas within Slaintecare.

The Disability Action Plan outlines a team of 18 WTE per CHO by 2026 to be reconfigured into one larger CNRT per RHA. Estimates bids will be submitted to Budget 2026 to enhance existing teams and fund CNRTs in those IHAs/RHAs that do not have funding for CNRT.



The HSE continues to engage with DCED through the annual budgetary process to secure the necessary funding to establish this essential service in such a way that there is equity of access for those who need it regardless of where they live.

As per the 2025 National Service Plan, the HSE is committed to develop Community Neuro-Rehabilitation Teams (CNRTs) in line with the *Neuro-Rehabilitation Implementation Framework* (2019) and enhance capacity for its implementation nationally.

Yours Sincerely,

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