



Leas Stiúrthóir Náisiúnta: Straitéis Cúram Sláinte -
Seirbhísí Míchumais agus Meabhair shláinte

Assistant National Director: Healthcare Strategy - Disability and
Mental Health Services

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28th November 2023

Deputy Paul Donnelly,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: paul.donnelly@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary question, which was submitted to this department for response.

PQ: 49294/23

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the status of funding for a Community Neurorehabilitation Team in CHO9; and the timeframe he is working towards.

HSE Response

The Programme for Government – 'Our Shared 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 for 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.

In order to test the feasibility of this new MCRN model in the Irish context, a decision was made by the Neuro-Rehabilitation Steering Group to run a demonstrator project with a Community Neuro Rehabilitation Team (CNRT) each in CHO 6 and CHO 7, to assess the feasibility of the model and to inform national roll-out. Subsequent funding was secured to extend the demonstrator to include CHO 2 and CHO 4 in Budget 2023. Within these CHOs, initial meetings have taken place to establish a Local Implementation Group (LIG) who will drive the creation of the CNRT within the CHO, identify a location



for these teams, as well as operationalise the model of governance approved by the National Steering Group. Subsequent funding has been sought in the 2024 estimates process, and subject to both funding and the ability to recruit, the next development planned will be in the new RHA which will incorporate the existing CHO9.

I trust that this information is of assistance.

Mise le meas,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'BJH', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**Mr Brian J Higgins,
Assistant National Director,
Healthcare Strategy,
Disability and Mental Health Services**