

Ceann Seirbhíse, Míchumais Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC Head of Service, Disabilities Dublin South Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare

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15th February 2024

Response finalised: 24 November 2023

Bríd Smith TD Dáil Eireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

Ref: 49312/23

Re: *"*To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth if he will clarify why there is currently only one part-time social worker at the children's disability network team on Armagh Road, Crumlin, Dublin 12; if he is aware that this situation is causing a serious backlog for children with special needs requiring services; if he will clarify what the staffing level should be and when this will be met; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

- Bríd Smith TD

Dear Deputy Smith,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth to the Health Service Executive for direct response. I have requested the Interim Children's Disability Network Manager for the Children's Disability Network Team – 3 to examine the matter and the following outlines the position.

In response to the above parliamentary question regarding clarification about Social Work allocation to Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) 3, St. Columba's, Armagh Road, Crumlin, D12.

CDNT 3 have 2 allocated Social Work posts. One of these posts is a 0.7 WTE basic grade post and the other is a senior 0.6 WTE post. Currently, the basic grade post 0.7 WTE is filled. CDNT3 also have 0.6 WTE Senior Social Worker post which is currently vacant. We are actively trying to fill the vacant social work post and acknowledge the impact that this vacancy is having on the current service.

I trust this information is of use to you. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

P.P

Catherine Duty.

Margaret O'Neill, Interim Head of Service, Disability Services Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare.