

22nd August 2024

Deputy Cathal Crowe
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Email: cathal.crowe@oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 28023/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth if he will urgently sanction an increase in the community neurorehabilitation team in CHO3 from 7 currently to 12 whole-time equivalents, in line with the teams that have been funded in other parts of the country; and if he will make a statement on the matter

Dear Deputy Crowe,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

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 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). Each MCRN includes the development of a Community Neuro-Rehabilitation Team (CNRT). The overarching aim is the development of population based MCRN's around the country.

An estimates submission was not successful to secure funding for enhancing the CNRT in CHO 3 Mid West in Budget 2024. This will be re-submitted for Budget 2025.

I trust this clarifies the situation but should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Mary O'Malley

Head of Service, Disability Services

HSE Mid West Community Healthcare