



**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.

24<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Deputy Holly Cairns,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.  
E-mail: [holly.cairns@oireachtas.ie](mailto:holly.cairns@oireachtas.ie)

Dear Deputy Cairns,

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: 33506/24**

*To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth to detail the consultation which has taken place to date with families and disability service staff in regard to shaping the HSE's Roadmap to Improve Children's Disability Services 2023-2026; and if he will make a statement on the matter.*

## **HSE Response**

### **Roadmap for Service Improvement 2023 – 2026, Disability Services for Children and Young People**

The HSE's Roadmap for Service Improvement 2023 – 2026, Disability Services for Children and Young People, approved by the HSE Board and launched by the Government and the HSE in October 2023 is a targeted Service Improvement Programme to achieve a quality, accessible, equitable and timely service for all children with complex needs as a result of a disability and their families.

It sets out the overall aim for Children's Disability Services, provided by the HSE and its partner agencies, for every child to have a childhood of inclusive experiences where they can have fun, learn, develop interests and skills, and form positive relationships with others in a range of different settings.

The Roadmap, which is now in its implementation phase, has established four Working Groups which report into a Service Improvement Programme Board every month which in turn reports to the Roadmap Oversight Group chaired by the Minister of State, Ann Rabbitte.

The WGs have wide membership including HSE, Section 38 and 39 front line disabilities staff and management, parent voices, staff reps, Primary Care, CAMHS and Department of Children, Equality, Disability Integration and Youth. The WGs have agreed their Terms of Reference and their Project Charters for the Roadmap Actions within their scope.



These Charters define:

- Key activities to be delivered in order to achieve their Roadmap Actions
- Risks
- Assumptions,
- Interdependencies/dependencies
- Deliveries.

A series of CHO Roadmap workshops were delivered in February with collated feedback used to inform development of the Working Group's above activities required to deliver on the Roadmap Actions.

Working Group 1 **Integrated Children's Services** – has responsibility for the implementation of National Access Policy, Equity of Access to Aids and Appliances across all CHOs; and the Review of HSE Tusla Joint Protocol.

Working Group 2: **Service Access and Improvement** – has responsibility for Waitlist Management and Services; Optimising Teams Efficiencies, Effectiveness and Governance; AONs overdue for completion; and the development of a National Capital plan to enable all staff of a CDNT to be co-located.

Working Group 3: **Workforce** – has responsibility for developing and ensuring the delivery of a recruitment strategy for all CDNTs regardless of the Lead Agency; Retention of existing CDNT staff; Deployment of Students/Trainees/New Graduates; and Development of Existing Staff.

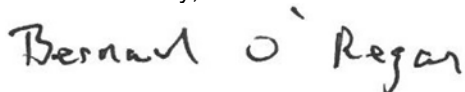
Working Group 4: **Communication and Engagement** – has responsibility for developing and ensuring the delivery of a rolling Communication Plan for the Roadmap and CDNT service, which is a key priority; review and updating the HSE PDS Website to meet information needs of families, further Staff Engagement and Workshop days and ensuring sustainability of the Family Forums and Family Representative Groups.

A 5<sup>th</sup> group: will focus on optimising integration between Education and Health and support for special schools. Discussions are ongoing between DCEDIY and Department of Education in regard to its set up and shared leadership.

The Roadmap contains 60 actions of which 12 have been completed and the majority of remaining actions are in train. These include a robust suite of 21 staff retention and recruitment actions.

The HSE is fully committed to the delivery of the Roadmap actions over the lifetime of the plan.

Yours Sincerely,



**Bernard O'Regan**  
**Assistant National Director**  
**National Disability Team**

