



Ceann na Seirbhíse Míchumas
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Slainte
Seirbhísi Pobaill (An Cabhán, Dún na
nGall, Liatroim, Muineachán &
Sligeach)
Áras Isacc Butt, Bealach Féich,
Tír Chonaill F93 YV9R

Head of Service Disability
HSE Community Services (Cavan,
Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan & Sligo)
The Isacc Butt Building, Ballybofey
Co. Donegal F93 YV9R
Tel+353(0)74 9189028/ 9189032
Email: Edel.Quinn@hse.ie

17th December 2024

Deputy Pearse Doherty
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

PQ ref 45759/24

“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of children in County Donegal that have been turned down by CDNTs over the past year; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Dear Deputy Doherty,

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 for response.

I have examined the matter and the table below details the figures for the number of children in Co. Donegal who have not been accepted to the four Children’s Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) in the county over the past year, from November 2023 to October 2024 inclusive.

Number of children not accepted to CDNT November 2023 – October 2024 inclusive	
Donegal North CDNT	78
Donegal East CDNT	61
Donegal Inishowen CDNT	50
Donegal South West CDNT	28
Total	217

Reasons for non-acceptance to CDNTs

Children who are referred to health services are reviewed and assessed by health and social care professionals, after which a decision is made on the most appropriate service/s for the child, i.e. CDNTs within Disability Services, or via Paediatric Primary Care or Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services.

Children who have mild or moderate difficulties or less complex needs may be referred to one or more health professionals within Primary Care, e.g. Speech & Language Therapy, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy. Where a child presents with mental health concerns referral should be to health professionals within Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services.

Children who have a disability and complex health needs associated with their disability receive specialised, interdisciplinary supports and services from CDNTs. The CDNTs provide services for children who have a range of significant difficulties in functional skills and/or applied skill sets required for activities of daily living, learning new skills and social interaction. Complex needs arising from a disability refer to one or more impairments, which contribute to a range of significant functional difficulties that require the services and support of an

interdisciplinary disability team. This may involve physical, social, emotional, communication and behavioural support for the child from the staff of the CDNT.

I trust this is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Edel Quinn
Head of Service Disability Services
Community Services Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim, Monaghan, Sligo
Seirbhisi Pobail An Cabhán, Dún na nGall, Liatroim, Muineachán & Sligeach