

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

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16 October 2024

Bernard J. Durkan TD Dáil Éireann Leinster House Kildare Street Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 39447/24

Re: Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) - North Kildare

"To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the extent to which disability services for children are readily available throughout north County Kildare; the areas of deficiency in this regard that have been identified; the remediation plans for same; the progress made in this regard in the last six months; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

- Bernard J. Durkan

Dear Deputy Durkan,

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 requested that the Children's Disability Network Manager – North Kildare examine the matter and the following outlines the position.

The North Kildare CDNT is currently operating with a vacancy rate of 43%, vacancies are across all health and social care disciplines, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, psychology and social work. The CDNT continues to advocate for the onboarding of candidates who have accepted posts on the team and for vacant posts to be offered to existing HSE panels.

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

Margaret O'Neill

Catherine Duff

Interim Head of Service, Disability Services

Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare.