

Progressing Disability Dublin North City & County CHO9 Autumn Bulletin 2016

This Bulletin is a response to the Family Presentations which took place in 2016. These bulletins aim to communicate information on Progressing Children's Disability Services (PCDS). The four lead agencies, Central Remedial Clinic (CRC), Health Services Executive (HSE), St. Michael's House and Daughters of Charity are currently engaged in a process to deliver these services in the future.

Q: Who are the staff on the Network teams?

A: The staff that will be on the new children's disability teams will be from existing services: CRC, HSE, St Michaels House and Daughters of Charity. There are approximately 132 staff already working in the four agencies. In addition 32.5 posts have been given for PCDS in CHO9. These 164.5 staff will form the new network teams in the 12 network areas in Dublin North City and County (consisting of Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech & Language Therapy, Social Work, Psychology and Team Manager) In the new model of service children with a disability will have their needs met by either Primary Care or the children's disability network team.

Q: What about Maternity Leaves?

A: Backfilling of staff who are on maternity leave is presently being negotiated between HSE and IMPACT Trade Union.

Q: What size is the Network Team?

A: The size of the teams is based on the childhood population in each network area. The aim is to have the number of staff on each team which reflects the children's population in the network area. The team sizes will depend on the network population the special schools in the area and the number of Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) classes.

If your child attends a special school or an ASD class your child's network team will be based in the schools network area. This is to prevent a large number of therapists from different network areas coming into schools to see children.

Q: How will expertise be divided across the Network Teams?

A: A working group is mapping the population ratios in CHO9. This group is working to ensure that core competencies, expertise and skillset is equitable across the 12 network teams. This group is working in tandem with the Specialist Services group to develop referral pathways between network teams and specialist services.

Q: How many extra children will access the service?

A: There are an approximate 5,000 children in CHO9 between 0-18 years of age with a disability. Of these children, 2,500 of these children are receiving services from one of the voluntary organisations or a HSE team. The remaining children are either accessing a service through Primary Care or have no access to a publicly funded service as they currently do not meet the criteria for any of the existing service providers. The HSE website includes information about PDS.

website: <http://www.hse/progressingdisabilityservices>

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PCDS Family Communication Strategy Group, CHO9 November 2016