

National Programme for the Restructuring of Children's Disability Services

The vision for the programme

One clear pathway to services for all children with disabilities, according to need.

Resources used to the greatest benefit for all children and families.

Health and education working together, to support children to achieve their potential.

The aim of the programme

The national programme aims to have one clear pathway for all children with disabilities living in a locality.

This means that health professionals and parents will know where a child should be referred and how to do this.

Importantly, via local service provision, the objective is that no family will be left without a service.

What is the programme about?

In Ireland, disability services delivered by the HSE and non-statutory organisations have developed independently over time. There is wide variation in the services available in different parts of the country and for different categories of disability.

As a consequence of this, some children and their families have little or no access to services for example Doctor, Nurse, Occupational Therapist, Speech and Language Therapist, Social Worker, Physiotherapist and Psychologist.

We need a more equitable and consistent way to provide services for children with disabilities and we must work together to achieve the greatest benefit possible within our resources.

A National Co-ordinating Group has been meeting for the past twelve months to form a project plan to assist this process. Two local implementation groups for Cork will work with representatives from services and parents to determine how current services can be reorganised to achieve an improved structure.

How you can help to make this programme work?

We are looking for parent representatives for the two Cork Local Implementation Groups and sub Groups. Ideally, there would be equal representation from North and South Lee to represent children with different disabilities and age groups. This project will be rolled out in Cork North and south Lee areas over the next 18- 24 months.

Parent nominations will be welcomed at the information meetings. More information on the format of the group and the time commitments will be explained at the meeting and the project itself. Your attendance at the information meeting would be greatly appreciated regardless of any active involvement in Groups.

For further information

More about this programme can be found on the HSE site www.hseland.ie.

Enquiries to info@childrensdisabilityservices@hse.ie or for contact point for local leads (Karen.Holmes@hse.ie)

Over to you

You may want to write down some of your thoughts on the current service that your child receives.

List some of the obstacles that you have encountered as a parent of a child with a disability.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

Now

Suggest solutions to these obstacles.

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

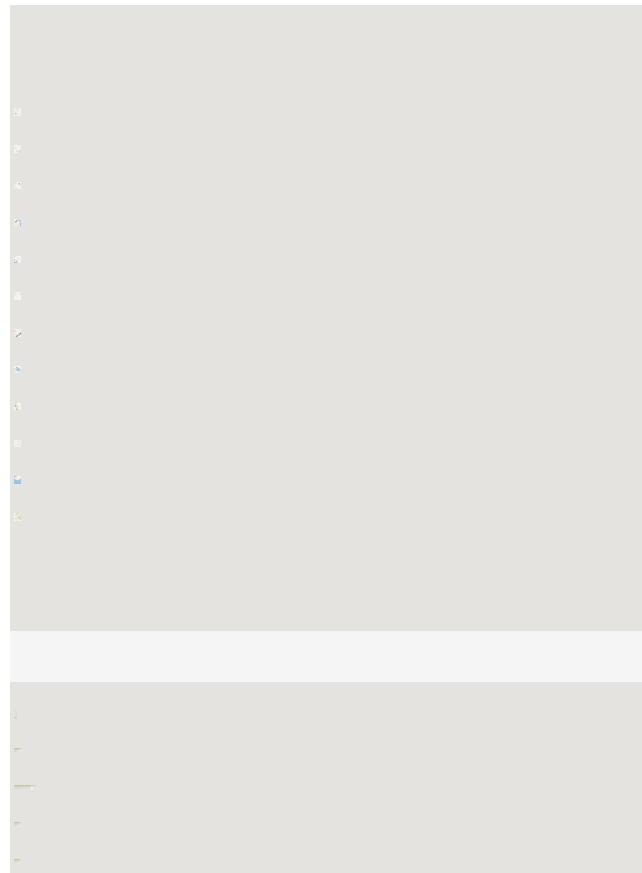


Date: Thursday 6th June

Time: 7:00pm – 9.00pm

Location:

**Brú Columbanus Wilton Cork
near Wilton shopping centre –
Opposite Cork University
Hospital**



Fidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

**Progressing
Disability
Services for
Children and
Young People
(0 - 18 yrs.)**

**Cork North Lee &
South Lee
Information
Meetings**

Date: Thursday 6th June

Time: 7:00pm – 9.00pm