

EAST LIMERICK CHILDREN SERVICES FAMILY NETWORK MEETING 13TH MARCH 2025



Avista



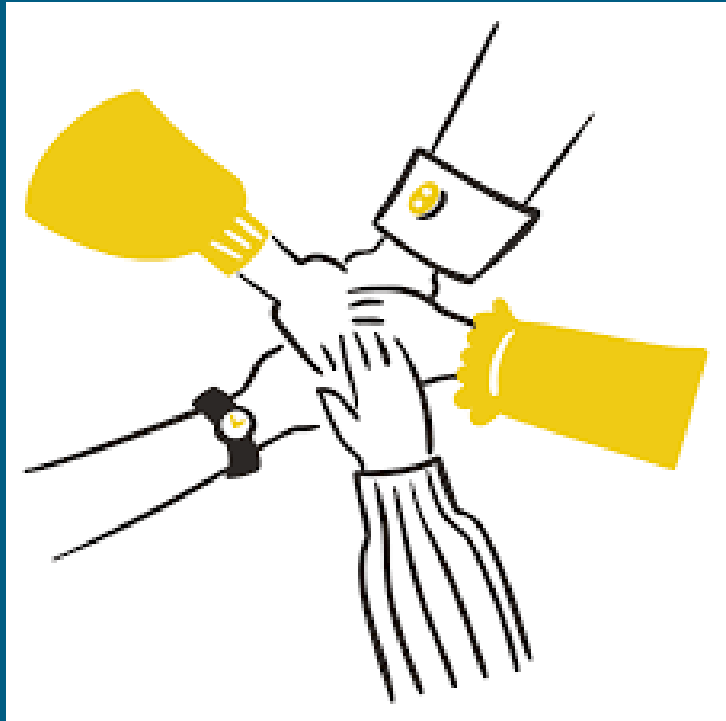
INTRODUCTIONS

- Interim Children's Disability Network Manager (CDNM) - East Limerick Children Services: Nicola Haran Breen
- Children's Services Manager Avista: Baerbel Schlueter
- Administrator of ELCS: Brian O'Flanagan

HOW WE WORK TOGETHER

- Family Network meetings are the method by which families can formally engage with their local CDNT to support the further development of the service and look at service improvements
- Part of the governance structure for Progressing Disability Services
- An opportunity for you to share:
 - What you think is working
 - What you think isn't working
 - What could be improved

GROUND RULES



WELCOME AND AGENDA

1. Introductions/Ground rules – Baerbel
2. East Limerick Children's Services update - Nicola
3. Update on activities - Nicola
4. Agenda items from reps - Baerbel
5. Topics to be brought forward to regional forum - Baerbel
6. Family Network Meeting dates 2025
7. Conclusion of meeting

EAST LIMERICK CHILDREN'S SERVICES UPDATE

- East Limerick Children Services is operated by Avista in partnership with the HSE. We currently (28.02.2025) have **939** children accepted to our service.
- **763 children active.**
- **176** children are currently on the waiting list. Approximate waiting time for start of service provision: **24 plus months** ✓
- Newly recruited: Senior Occupational Therapist 0-9 team, Senior SLT 9-18 team ✓
- Current vacancies: Senior PT, Senior SLT, Basic Grade Psychologist, Senior Psychologist, 1.75 Therapy Assistants, 1 Assistant Psychologist
- Maternity leave: Social Worker St Vincent Team until September 2025, upcoming: 2; Senior SLT and Senior OT
- Admin staff: 2 Clerical Officers, Administrator and CDN; To support and ensure governance: Children Services Manager

ACTIVITIES AND REGIONAL UPDATES

Regional CDNT's:

- Improving Communications: regional questionnaire was completed by over 1200 people/report with themes finalised, communication with families: main topic of feedback;
- Development of service information leaflet regionally; launch by end of March 2025
- IFSP leaflet and information now available
- Signposting to other support services on website www.mwcds.ie
- New pathways: FEDS and Motor Management

ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES EAST LIMERICK CHILDREN SERVICES

- Planning to resume in person service introduction meetings; our family representative has agreed to co-facilitate
- Working on improving Avista website: collaboration with our Dublin colleagues on this
- Quarterly newsletter with updates and events (from end of March 2025)
- Baby Clinic
- Implementing of new programme “Being Me” for parents and children; ages from 7 to 16 years

ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES EAST LIMERICK CHILDREN SERVICES

- Transition to school (event completed) and secondary school (upcoming)
- Advice clinics at St Vincent School
- Offering ongoing teacher/SNA training
- Children's voice – focus group for children by Easter
- ELCS outdoors area: panelling was done, new shed for storage of equipment; next phase: soft flooring, seating and sensory wall/mural
- Learning to cycle group – request by email

AGENDA ITEMS FROM FAMILY REPRESENTATIVES

- Communications – out of office messages
- Need for additional representatives – what is required?
- Regional website and family information
- Suggestion: installing of specific post box for comments by families
- Service introduction meetings for new families with family representative(s)



GROUP DISCUSSION

- Topic's from family representatives
- New topics/comments



FAMILY FORUM DATES FOR 2025

- Regional Family Network Meetings: **26th March, 4th June, 17th September, 19th November 2025**
- ELCS Network meetings for 2025: to be agreed
- Venue and times for ELCS Network meetings

THANK YOU!