North Tipperary Family Network Meeting

FEBRUARY 2026

Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Role of the Family Network and Family Reps

North Tipperary Family Network Reps Update

North Tipperary CDNT Update from CDNM

Group Discussion

Election of New Family Representative

Review of Actions

Role of the Family Network Meeting

For the CDNM and families to work collaboratively to improve the outcomes for children and families accessing our services and to foster a culture of trust, openness and transparency

To give families an opportunity to discuss general issues and ideas for service development and/or enhancement of children's disability services in their local CDNT

To elect two Family Representatives who will meet the CDNM regarding CDNT issues and ideas raised by the Family Network, and will join the Family Representative Group at area level

To share information on:

- Service provision, governance and access
- Community supports
- Rights of the child and the family
- Other relevant topics of interest

To facilitate Networking and sharing knowledge and experiences amongst families

*The principles of confidentiality, Data Protection and GDPR should be upheld at all times

Role of the Family Rep

The Family Representative will:

- Attend meetings of the Family Representative Group at CHO level
- Represent their Family Network by expressing their views, concerns and suggestions for improvements based on collation of general areas and themes from the Family Network
- Represent issues and ideas raised by families
- Provide feedback between the Family Representative Group and the Family Network
- The Family Representative's official interface with the family members should be solely at the Family Networks. There is a pathway for families with queries relating to individual children and it is not appropriate to get engaged in issues related to individual children.
- Family Representatives should direct the family member to the CDNM or tell them to contact the CDNT via phone, email or post.

What does the role not involve?

- Reps are not expected to advocate on behalf of individual parents. Individual parents must liaise directly with their CDNT and CDNM if they want to raise individual issues.
- Reps are not expected to meet with or correspond with parents outside of the Family Representative Group. You will feed back on your work and any updates you have at your Family Network.

Update from Family Reps

North Tipperary Family Network

Items to be discussed at the Family Representative Group

Date	Item	Action	Update	Outcome
16.04.24	Timeline for Newsletter	Discussed at the FRG 08.05.24	Focus group held with reps of the FRG. Survey sent to families re info to be contained in this. Report on survey awaited. (03.10.24) Survey completed – on mwcds.ie for review by all. OMG met with reps from FRG and HSE Service User engagement office to develop newsletter today	The first news letter was sent out to parents on 26.02.25, second sent in June This will be sent out 4 times per year
16.04.24	Booklet/Leaflet at the consultation phase	Discussed at the FRG 08.05.24	Survey sent to families re info to be contained in this. Report on survey awaited. (03.10.24) Survey completed – on mwcds.ie for review by all. Working group reviewed same and sent final draft for consultation with FRG, now reviewing feedback from FRG.	Booklet has been finalised. It is sent to parents on acceptance to waiting list, and has been sent to all on the caseload.
16.04.24	Timeline for website update	Discussed at the FRG 08.05.24	National HSE Comms dept has put a stop to local website. Locally considering our options (03.10.24) Local Website has been updated with information platform for those on the waiting list; also CDNM is trying to add updates to North Tipperary CDNT section of same. Will aim to update this section ahead of the next Family network meeting	North Tipperary CDNT page has been updated. Page has been developed with resources for families on the waiting list

16.04.24	Section 39 pay gap	Discussed at the FRG 08.05.24 Put forward as an item for discussion at the governance group 23.05.24	Management group looking at this. Next meeting on pay parity is 24th June 2024. It is a Government decision. Section 38 - Public Servants (HSE equivalent). Section 39 - not considered Public Servant so different pay scales. 03/10/2024 This issue was raised again. Our service is directly affected. What is being done and what can we as parents do to escalate this. Rather than bringing it to the family network is there another option to have our voice heard April – unions are voting on a pay deal to bring S39 pay in line with HSE/S38 in two years time. Agreement on partial restoration to be paid over next 18 months.	
16.04.24	Recruitment & Retention	Discussed at FRG		
03.10.24	Why are the updated reports for school placement being conducted by the CDNT. Why are NEPS not involved to reduce strain on CDNT	Discussed at FRG		
03.10.24	CAMHs referrals children refused entry to the service due to ASD diagnosis. What happens when CDNT refers child and it is not accepted. Who will provide care	Discussed at FRG		

North Tipperary Family Network

Items to be discussed at local level

Date	Item	Action	Update	Outcome
16.04.24	Timeline for introduction to service	Ann committed to 4-6 weeks		Two have been completed, 3rd scheduled May, due another shortly. Presenation recorded and sent to those who can't attend.
16.04.24	Post-diagnosis support group for other diagnoses- currently only ASD group	To be reviewed over the summer months	Group has been finalised, challenged now by staffing	
16.04.24	Invite speakers from different groups/organisations to attend schools	To be discussed with the NCSE rep when they attend the FN meeting	This is at the discretion of each individual school	Parents can contact their principal/BoM to arrange Issue closed
13.06.24	Guest speaker	The local SENO attended the meeting. She gave a presentation, answered questions in the group setting, and discussed issues privately with families at the end	All parents must contact her with the diagnosis, especially if it is private so she can add them to her list. Apply to schools in writing, even if they are full, to show the need for more classrooms. Each school has its own entry requirements, so contact them for details. The onus is on the parent to ensure all reports are in place	SENO advice shared with FRG on 11/09/24 Issue closed

Roadmap For Service Improvement

1. Roadmap for Service Improvement for Disability Services for Children and Young People 2023-2026 (Available on the HSE website).
2. Service Improvement & Planning 2026-2027 (Coming soon).

Update from CDNM

CDNT Staff (WTE) Funded

	Spraoi (0-9)	Sonas (9-18)	Total
CDNM	1		1
Occupational therapy	2.3	2.9	5.2
Physiotherapy	1	2	3
Psychology	3	3	6
Social Work	2	2	4
Speech and Language Therapy	2	3	5
Nursing	0.6	1	1.6
Early Intervention Educator	1		1
Paediatric Link Worker	0.3		0.3
Therapy Assistant	0.6	0.65	1.25
Admin and Clerical Support	3		3

CDNT Staff (WTE) In Post

	Spraoi (0-9)	Sonas (9-18)	Vacancy (incl leaves)
CDNM	1		
Occupational therapy	2	1.6	**1.6**
Physiotherapy	1	1.5	**0.5**
Psychology	0	0	**6**
Social Work	0	1	**3**
Speech and Language Therapy	1	2	**2**
Nursing	0.6	0	**1**
Early Intervention Educator	1	0	
Paediatric Link Worker	0.3		
Therapy Assistant	1.25		
Admin and Clerical Support	3		

CDNT Caseload

November 2025:

- Sonas currently taking children off the waiting list who were referred in July 2023
- Spraoi currently taking children off the waiting list who were referred in Feb 2023

CDNT	Active Caseload	Waiting List	Total Caseload
North Tipperary	1181	266	1447

February 2026

- Sonas currently taking children off the waiting list who were referred in July 2023
- Spraoi currently taking children off the waiting list who were referred in March 2023

CDNT	Active Caseload	Waiting List	Total Caseload
North Tipperary	1175	264	1439

Updates

You Said:
Entrance to Services Information

We Did:
Entrance to Services Workshop finalised and 2 have been held, next one scheduled for Friday.
Moving this to being offered on referral rather than when starting in the service.

We Did:
Entrance to Services Booklet finalised and provided to all families on acceptance to waiting list. Also shared with all families on current list.

Updates

You Said:
We would like speakers are each Network Meeting

We Are Doing:
Family Carers Ireland going to attend meeting in May 2026. Looking for further feedback on other speakers to invite.

Funding for Waiting List initiative

Telephone call conducted by two clinicians to:

- Get additional background information and up to date information
- Develop better understanding of the child's strength and needs and family's priorities.
- Determine if with correct service, or if still requiring a CDNT service
- Provide initial strategies and links to resources/community services to work on/with while waiting, and guidance on suitable Universal Strategy workshops for their family.
- Identify any groups/workshops that might be appropriate that are currently running in the team e.g. in the event of low uptake by the active caseload or cancellations etc.
- Ensure any child who should be prioritised or requires immediate risk management is identified as soon as possible (e.g. in the cases where needs are significant but families do not have capacity to advocate for them).

Projected Outcome:

- Families feel supported while waiting for access to full interdisciplinary service provision to foster a positive relationship with the team from the beginning.
- Urgent cases are identified quickly and risks mitigated.

Election of New Family Rep

Group Discussion

- Feedback on the service
- Speakers/Topics for future Network Meetings
- Any additional information you'd like at Network Meetings

Speakers

Financial – trust funds etc

Domicillary care – Disability Allowance

Carers allowance – how many hours can you work?

Anxiety – groups are very useful