



27th October 2023 (Updated)

To all Fórsa Members working in the provision of Disability Services for Children and Young People

Re: Roadmap for Service Improvement 2023 – 2026

Dear Member,

On Tuesday at 3.30pm, Ministers Roderic O’Gorman and Anne Rabbitte launched the HSE Roadmap for Service Improvement 2023 – 2026, Disability Services for Children and Young People.

While the development of the roadmap is welcome, the exclusion of our members from its development is completely unacceptable. The views of frontline staff, including those working in CDNTs, should not be an afterthought to this process of service improvement– they must be central to delivering solutions for the problems prevalent within PDS. We are also concerned by the exclusion of service users, parents and families, and the relevant professional bodies from this process.

Since our last engagement with the employer side in June at the Workplace Relations Commission we have been seeking formal engagement and consultation on the roadmap. This engagement and consultation has not taken place despite repeated requests from my office.

Fórsa have serious concerns about some elements of the roadmap due to the ongoing and significant recruitment and retention challenges within CDNTs. The simple fact is that most teams do not currently have the staff to be able to deliver this roadmap. There are also significant concerns about intentions within the Roadmap to privatise public services.

Until such time as these concerns are addressed through meaningful engagement and consultation, members working across all Disability Services are instructed not to participate in any activity related to the roadmap.

Should you have any queries about this correspondence, please contact your local branch rep in the first instance.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Kelly".

Linda Kelly
National Secretary