

16th July, 2019

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Ms. Margaret Murphy O'Mahony, T.D.,
 Dáil Éireann,
 Dublin 2

PQ ref 28971/19

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on the occupational therapy treatment waiting list for each local health area in CHO4 at the end of June 2019 or the latest date available in tabular form; the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months; and the number waiting aged 0 to 4, 5 to 17, 18 to 64 and more than 65 years of age.”

Dear Deputy Murphy O'Mahony,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

As requested, table 1 below identifies the number of children under 18 years of age that are awaiting occupational therapy assessment and/ or intervention in Cork Kerry Community Healthcare at the end of June 2019. Table 2 shows the number awaiting assessment and/or intervention in the 18 to 64 and 65+ age brackets at the end of June 2019.

Table 1

Former LHO	0 - 4 Yrs 11 Months					5 - 17 Yrs 11 Months				
	0 - ≤ 12 weeks	>12 weeks - ≤ 26 weeks	>26 weeks but ≤ 39 weeks	>39 weeks but ≤ 52 weeks	> 52 weeks	0 - ≤ 12 weeks	>12 weeks - ≤ 26 weeks	>26 weeks but ≤ 39 weeks	>39 weeks but ≤ 52 weeks	> 52 weeks
Kerry	24	30	14	10	16	51	80	49	41	251
North Cork	27	8	15	11	30	29	38	42	12	273
North Lee	41	38	11	11	28	82	145	104	31	559
South Lee	14	21	14	3	5	109	44	62	71	147
West Cork	8	10	3	2	2	38	52	27	16	64
CHO4 Total	114	107	57	37	81	309	359	284	171	1294

Table 2

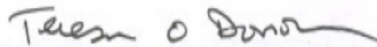
Former LHO	18-64 years					65 years plus				
	0 - ≤ 12 weeks	>12 weeks - ≤ 26 weeks	>26 weeks but ≤ 39 weeks	>39 weeks but ≤ 52 weeks	> 52 weeks	0 - ≤ 12 weeks	>12 weeks - ≤ 26 weeks	>26 weeks but ≤ 39 weeks	>39 weeks but ≤ 52 weeks	> 52 weeks
Kerry	28	18	5	5	2	227	107	28	20	35
North Cork	21	26	17	8	14	97	130	69	45	80
North Lee	49	31	6	14	28	157	139	51	54	148
South Lee	23	16	10	2	1	157	98	51	16	13
West Cork	14	7	4	2	0	61	46	5	9	0
CHO4 Total	135	98	42	31	45	699	520	204	144	276

Occupational Therapy presents with its most significant challenge in respect of paediatric services for 5 - 17 year olds. As outlined previously this is due to historic deficits in paediatric occupational therapy services and is most evident in the North Lee area. Cork Kerry Community Healthcare has progressed business cases for funding development posts in line with population need within the service planning process.

Cork Kerry Community Healthcare identified once off funding to recruit additional Occupational Therapists in Cork to address the Occupational Therapy waiting lists for children waiting over 1 year for assessment and /or intervention. This initiative, which has commenced on a phased basis, is having an impact on the current paediatric occupational therapy waiting times in Cork.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Teresa O' Donovan
Head of Service - Primary Care,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare