

24<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Deputy Margaret Murphy O'Mahony,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 19865/19**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for assessment by Early Intervention Team in each LHO area in CHO4 at the end of April 2019 or latest date available; and the number waiting 0-3, 3-6, 6-9, 9-12, 12-18, 18-24 and more than 24 months, respectively.”**

**PQ 23965 /19**

**“To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for assessment by early intervention teams in each LHO area in CHO4 at the end of May 2019 or the latest date available; and the number waiting 0 to 3, 3 to 6, 6 to 9, 9 to 12, 12 to 18, 18 to 24 and more than 24 months, respectively.”**

Dear Deputy Murphy O'Mahony,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I apologise for the delay in responding to PQ 198865/19 however, as previously advised, the gathering of this data took significant time.

Early Intervention occurs when trained professionals provide assessments and intervention therapies to children who may have a developmental delay or a disability and who need a period of on-going assistance from 2 or more member of a multidisciplinary team.

In Cork North and Cork South, Early Intervention services are available to children from birth to 5 years 11 months.

	<b>0-3 Months</b>	<b>3-6 Months</b>	<b>6-9 Months</b>	<b>9-12 Months</b>	<b>12-18 Months</b>	<b>18-24 Months</b>	<b>18-24 Months</b>	<b>&gt;24 Months</b>
<b>South Lee</b>	16	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>North Lee</b>	19	26	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>North Cork (excl. OT Figures – not available)</b>	20	20	11	0	0	0	0	0
<b>West Cork</b>	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>West Cork - ASD</b>	9	4	3	4	17	10	0	5

*Figures for children from birth to 5 years 11months  
Figures at end of April 2019*

## Kerry

	0-4 Months	4 Months & 1 Day – 8 Months	8 months 1 Day – 12 Months	12 Months & 1 Day – 18 Months	18 Months & 1 Day – 24 Months	24+ Months
South Kerry	6	8	8	0	0	0
Tralee	9	0	0	0	0	0
North Kerry	11	0	1	0	0	0
Mid Kerry	10	2	0	0.	0	0

Figures are for children from birth – 18 years of age  
Figures at end of Quarter 1

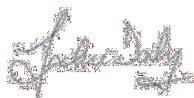
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare area will be re-configuring Childrens Services in the Cork area with the roll out Progressing Disabilities (PDS) for Children. Services in Kerry and in West Cork have already re-configured and are now structured according to the PDS model. The aforementioned area will have 10 Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNT's) once the reconfiguration is complete. The recruitment process for the CDNT Managers commenced in November 2018, with interviews having taken place in February 2019.

Reconfiguration of Children's services in Kerry has already taken place. ASD assessments in Kerry are carried out by a multidisciplinary team, in line with best practice guidelines, which includes a Psychologist and Speech & Language Therapist/ Occupational Therapist.

Waiting lists for children attending Kerry Disability Network teams that require an ASD assessment are currently between 18 to 24 months and while this number continues to grow due to the increase in numbers of children presenting with characteristics associated with ASD, the children on the waitlists are continually being monitored and reviewed by the team as needs change thus ensuring that urgent clinical cases are prioritised. The teams work closely with families to ensure that time sensitive and priority assessments are undertaken e.g. for children requiring specialist school placements, for young adults who are reaching 18 years and are leaving the children's services.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Your sincerely,



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**Ms. Jackie Daly,**  
**General Manager for Disability Services,**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare.**