



16th October 2019

Deputy Gino Kenny
Dail Eireann
Dublin 2

PQ 39480/19

To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for treatment types (details supplied) in CHO 7; and if he will make a statement on the matter – Gino Kenny

Dear Deputy

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.

| Treatment Types | Dublin South City | Dublin South West | Dublin West | Kildare West Wicklow |
|---|---|---|---|-----------------------------|
| Assessment of Needs for children with Special Needs <i>AON is not a "treatment type". Assessment of Need is a statutory process in determining disability and the health and education needs arising from the disability</i> | 18 Months (staff dependent) | 18 Months | 15 Months | 18 Months |
| Speech and Language Therapies for Children with Special Needs | Approx 24 months (staff dependant) | HSE Average between EIT and SAT waiting and internal is 43 months. Note that service is not reconfigured so times will be significantly less in the voluntary sector across the area. | Approx 30 months (staff dependent) | TBC |
| Psychological Services for children with Special Needs | Approx 29 months for SAT and 24 months for EIT | | Approx 30 months (staff dependent) | TBC |
| OT for Children with Special Needs | Approx. 10 months for SAT and 24 months for EIT | | Approx. 20-22 months depending on staffing levels | TBC |
| Physiotherapy for Children with Special Needs | Unknown due to no permanent fulltime staff on either SAT or EIT | | Approx. 18 months | TBC |

Unfortunately the collection of information for Kildare West Wicklow is not complete at the time of responding to your Question. I will revert as soon as possible when I have confirmation of all figures from the 3 Network Disability Teams within Kildare West Wicklow.

Increased demands for children's services far outweigh the current resources available to Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow (CHO7). There are lengthy waiting lists across Disability Services for both Early Intervention Teams and School Age Teams (inclusive of all therapies, Occupational Therapy, Speech & Language Therapy, Psychology, and Physiotherapy).

100 new therapy posts for Disability Services were announced within the National Service Plan for 2019. Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare was allocated 13 of the 100 posts allocated nationally. The first allocated posts will be used to address the Waiting list for Assessment of Need in Dublin South West to ensure compliance with the Disability Act 2005. The focus will then be transferred to the waiting list for intervention. The recruitment process has commenced with a view to filling the posts as soon as possible.

Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow will continue to highlight the resources required in Disability Services in order to deal with the increased demands for the area.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but if you have any queries or should require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Carol Cuffe

Head of Social Care

Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare