

30th March, 2020

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James Browne, T.D.,
 Dáil Éireann,
 Dublin 2

PQ ref 3649/20

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in CHO4 at the end of February 2020 or latest date available on the occupational therapy treatment waiting list by period and age (details supplied)”

Details Supplied:and within that the numbers waiting less than 4 months; the number waiting 4-12 months; and the number waiting more than 12 months; and if he would indicate also for each category the numbers waiting aged 0-4 years, 5-17 years, 18-64 years and aged 65 plus.”

Dear Deputy Browne,

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 (CKCH) at the end of February 2020. Table 2 shows the number awaiting assessment and/ or intervention in the 18 to 64 and 65+ age brackets at the end of February 2020.

Table 1

CKCH	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	> 52 weeks	0 - ≤ 12 weeks	>12 weeks - ≤ 26 weeks	>26 weeks but ≤ 39 weeks	>39 weeks but ≤ 52	> 52 weeks
Kerry	23	26	19	10	18	59	56	40	64	273
North Cork	14	7	7	11	10	41	44	26	47	218
North Lee	60	39	26	22	21	112	142	153	72	549
South Lee	45	27	13	2	6	120	95	89	89	106
West Cork	7	11	5	4	6	54	43	18	35	67
CHO4 Total	149	110	70	49	61	386	380	326	307	1213

Table 2

CKCH	18-64 years					65 years plus				
	0 - ≤ 12 weeks	>12 weeks - ≤ 26 weeks	>26 weeks but ≤ 39 weeks	>39 weeks but ≤ 52	> 52 weeks	0 - ≤ 12 weeks	>12 weeks - ≤ 26 weeks	>26 weeks but ≤ 39 weeks	>39 weeks but ≤ 52	> 52 weeks
Kerry	31	17	6	1	0	176	107	27	4	0
North Cork	13	10	10	11	38	90	74	75	79	164
North Lee	50	41	16	15	22	201	160	80	86	145
South Lee	13	17	7	8	4	137	111	50	33	10
West Cork	9	10	1	1	1	54	36	13	7	4
CHO4 Total	116	95	40	36	65	658	488	245	209	323

Occupational Therapy presents with its most significant challenge in respect of paediatric services 5 - 18 year olds. This is due to historic deficits in paediatric occupational therapy services and is most evident in North Lee area. Cork Kerry Community Healthcare identified once-off funding and recruited 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 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