



18th June 2021

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Re: PQ ref 25037/21 - Wait time in disability care for Occupational Therapist

'To ask the Minister for Health the wait time in disability care for an occupational therapist in CHO9; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

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 for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Waiting times for children with a disability that require access to an Occupational Therapist within a disability team in Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC) are as follows:

- Early Intervention Team (EIT) is currently 38 months
- School Aged Disability Team St Michael's House (SMH) is approximately 30 months
- School Aged Disability Team Central Remedial Clinic (CRC) is approximately 24 months

Children's Disability Services are being reconfigured at national and local level throughout the HSE under the Progressing Disability Services programme. We are working in partnership with children's disability service providers in CHO DNCC and we are finalising the process of establishing Children's Disability Network Teams to support children with complex needs. These Teams, when fully established and operational during Q3 2021, will provide inter-disciplinary support through a family centred approach. It is anticipated this will significantly impact waiting list times.

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

Yours sincerely

Ms Olive Hanley
Head of Service for Disability