



19<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Deputy John Brady,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 53286/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children that are currently on the waiting list to see a child psychologist in CHO 6 and 7 in County Wicklow by waiting times of less than three, three to six, six to 12 and more than 12 months, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

- John Brady

Dear Deputy Brady,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 53286/21) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Primary Care psychology has long established roles in caring for children with mild-to moderate mental health needs or signposting those who need specialist services. In line with the National Access Policy, it provides an increasing level of service to those with non-complex disabilities or as yet undiagnosed/unrecognised disabilities.

Please find Table 1 and Table 2 below, which contain details of the waiting lists in Psychology as of October 2021, which is the latest available data at this time.

**Table 1**

Waiting Times in County Wicklow Area, CHO 6	Totals
0 – 3 Months	66
3 – 6 Months	50
6 – 12 Months	37
Over 12 Months	0
Overall Total	153

**Table 2**

Waiting Times in Kildare West Wicklow area, CHO 7	Totals
0 – 3 Months	97
3 – 6 Months	78
6 – 12 Months	68
Over 12 Months	500
Overall Total	743

In consideration of the children and young people waiting over 12 months to access Primary Care psychology services, Primary Care Operations and the Department of Health has provided additional funding to year end to decrease the numbers of children and young people waiting over 12 months to access psychology services.

Since the commencement of these additional measures, significant progress has been made in the areas with an approximate reduction of 850 children or young people from the waiting lists to date.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



**Seán McArt**

General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations