



Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,
31-33 Sráid Chaitríona, Luimneach.

Office of the Head of Operations,
Disability Services/Social Care Division,
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9th September 2022

Deputy Michael Lowry,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: michael.lowry@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Lowry,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary question, which was submitted to this department for response.

PQ 42650/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of children under the age of 18 years with an intellectual, physical or sensory disability currently referred and waiting to be seen by HSE disabilities and special needs services in County Tipperary broken down into North and South Tipperary in tabular form; the length of time that each child is on the waiting list; the type of service they are waiting to attend; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

HSE Response

The National Policy on Access to Services for Children & Young People with Disability & Developmental Delay ensures that children are directed to the appropriate service based on the complexity of their presenting needs i.e. Primary Care for non-complex functional difficulties and Children's Disability Network Teams for complex functional difficulties.

Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs)

In 2021, the remainder of ninety-one multidisciplinary CDNTs were established to provide services and supports for all children with complex needs within a defined geographic area.

Work is ongoing on mapping specialised services and supports, and paediatric supports available and gap analysis for children with highly complex needs in order to develop standardised approaches to integrated pathways of support for CDNTs and Primary Care staff.

Children and their families will have access to the full range of services and supports of the CDNT according to their individual needs. This includes universal, targeted and specialist supports, such as individual therapeutic intervention and access to specialist consultation and assessment when needed. Supports will be provided as is feasible in the child's natural environments - their home, school and community.



National Information Management System for the CDNTs (CDNTIMS)

Historically the number of children waitlisted for children’s disability services provided by section 38 and section 39 providers has not been available nationally. The establishment of CDNTs will facilitate the collection of this data. A National Management Information System for all 91 CDNTs is in development and when implemented, will provide current data on waiting lists and other details for all CDNTs. In the interim, manual data collection is on-going and will provide information to the local areas regarding the number of children waiting for each CDNT.

The data provided in table 1 below shows the number of children that are waiting for an initial contact with a CDNT in the 9 CHO Areas: Data for CHO 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 represents end of May activity; Data from CHO 5 is for end April; and CHO 8 for end March 2022.

Information on North Tipperary is included in CHO 3 data and South Tipperary is included in CHO 5 data.

Please note that the CDNTs do not collect activity data by individual discipline (such as SLT, Physiotherapy, OT etc) as this does not align with the interdisciplinary model of care. In this context, discipline-specific data is not available.

Please also note that this is an interim dataset as we await the roll out of the National Information Management System and some individual CDNTs indicate that they do not have a system in place to capture this level of activity, therefore there are gaps in data returns for some of the CHO Areas

Status Report - June 2022	CHO1	CHO2	CHO3	CHO4	CHO5	CHO6	CHO7	CHO8	CHO9
No. of children waiting 0-3 months for an initial contact @ month end	116	273	281	224	56	163	212	398	142
No. of children waiting 4-6 months for an initial contact @ month end	115	803	201	224	247	140	233	1047	162
No. of children waiting 6-12 months for an initial contact @ month end	88	599	250	606	1001	262	752	372	435
No. of children waiting over 12 months for an initial contact @ month end	422	–	340	1892	0	507	1484	1229	2159

Yours sincerely



Bernard O'Regan
Head of Operations - Disability Services,
Community Operations

