

23rd March 2023

Matt Carthy T.D.
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

RE: PQ 7366/23

To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting period for occupational therapy services in County Monaghan; the proposals to reduce this timeframe; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Carthy,

I refer to your recent correspondence in relation to the above. The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above question. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Adult Disability Services

Children's Disability Network Team

The average waiting time for an Occupational Therapy appointment in Monaghan Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT), which has reduced significantly during the last year, is now 22.5 months.

A joint Primary Care and Disability Services waiting list initiative is now in operation. This initiative has addressed the Occupational Therapy waiting list and has provided both assessment and treatment for those waiting.

Adult Disability Services

The average waiting time for an Occupational Therapy appointment in Cavan/Monaghan Adult Disability Services is 4.5 months.

Regarding the proposals to reduce this waiting times, the HSE are currently in the process of recruiting a Senior Occupational Therapist post which will have a positive impact on the current waiting list.

Mental Health Response

The waiting time for an Occupational Therapy appointment in Cavan Monaghan Adult Mental Health Service (CAMHS) is, on average, just under 1 month. The waiting time for an Occupational Therapy appointment in Mental Health Services for the Elderly (MHSE) is on average 3 months, with the waiting time in CAMHS presently 2 months which will be reduced to under 1 month following the commencement of the Senior Occupational therapist post in the South Cavan South Monaghan team.

Urgent referrals continue to be prioritised to assist in managing the waiting list.



Primary Care Response

It is not possible to state an average waiting period across all Monaghan Community Healthcare Network services. However, a summary of the data provided indicates that;

There are 144 children waiting on an Occupational Therapy service with 79 waiting for a year or less, and 65 waiting for more than a year for service. There are 47 adults waiting on an Occupational Therapy service and all are waiting for less than 3 months.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edel Quinn', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Edel Quinn
Head of Service Disability CH CDLMS
Ceann na Seirbhíse Míchumas
Eagraíocht Chúram Sláinte Limistéar CDLMS