

24th July, 2023

Mr Thomas Gould, TD.,
Dáil Eireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 34061/23

"To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of people awaiting an Occupational Therapy appointment in each of the CDNTs in Cork; the number who have been waiting less than 3, 3-6, 6-12 and the number that have been waiting more than 12 months, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

PQ ref 34062/23

"To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of people awaiting an Speech & Language therapy appointment in each of the CDNTs in Cork; the number who have been waiting less than 3, 3-6, 6-12 and the number that have been waiting more than 12 months, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

PQ ref 34063/23

"To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth to outline the number of people awaiting a psychology appointment in each of the CDNTs in Cork the number who have been waiting less than 3, 3-6, 6-12 and the number that have been waiting more than 12 months, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter."

PQ ref 34064/23

"To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of people awaiting a first appointment in each of the CDNTs in Cork; the number who have been waiting less than 3, 3- 6, 6-12 and the number that have been waiting more than 12 months, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter"

Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Questions, which you submitted to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for response.

Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) have been established to provide services and supports for all children with complex needs within a defined geographic area.

A child's access to services is based on his/her needs and therefore a diagnosis is not required. Instead of a service providing for children with one type of disability only, resulting in some children unable to access a service, each CDNT provides for all children with complex needs arising from their disability who live in that area. Children with non-complex needs receive services at Primary Care level.

Currently, the teams have large numbers of complex children on their caseloads who require an interdisciplinary team approach and this is provided on a needs basis due to priority and risk to child, young adult and family in all environments such as home, school and in the community.

Regrettably, I am unable to provide a breakdown of data on those awaiting a specific intervention as at any one time. The team works in an interdisciplinary way i.e. a number of professionals of different disciplines working together with the child and family, sharing information, decision-making and goal-setting. This is a change from the previous model where a child accessed one discipline at a time and statistics were available in the manner requested.

Today a number of children may be in receipt of some intervention(s) but may also be waiting for another intervention(s) and without adequate ICT systems we are unable to provide the level of detail you have requested. I can advise that Cork CDNT's at the end of June 2023 had an active caseload of 5,679 children.

Re: PQ 34064: I am happy to provide you with information, in the following table, on the current number of children and young adults awaiting initial contact on each of the Cork Children's Disability Network Teams as of June 2023.

Children's Disability Network Team	No. of children awaiting initial contact			
	0-3 months	4-6 months	7-12 months	Over 12 months
Northwest Children's Disability Network Team - CDNT 4	4	20	12	7
Northeast Children's Disability Network Team - CDNT 5	11	21	29	90
East Central Cork Children's Disability Network Team - CDNT 6	8	14	33	39
East Cork City Children's Disability Network Team - CDNT 7	21	8	7	126
Central Cork Children's Disability Network Team - CDNT 8	2	3	14	19
North Cork City & Blarney Children's Disability Network Team - CDNT 9	3	6	32	181
West Cork Children's Disability Network Team - CDNT 10	9	0	0	0
South East Cork City Children's Disability Network Team - CDNT 11	13	5	12	114
West Central Cork Children's Disability Network Team - CDNT 12	10	4	10	198
Carrigaline/Kinsale/Bandon Children's Disability Network Team - CDNT 13	2	6	19	245
West Central Cork Children's Disability Network Team - CDNT 14	1	3	22	66
TOTALS	84	90	190	1,085

If I can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Ms. Majella Daly,
Head of Disability Services,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare