



Ceann Seirbhíse, Míchumais  
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara &  
Iarthar Chill Mhantáin

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás,  
Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC

Head of Service, Disabilities  
Dublin South Kildare and West  
Wicklow Community Healthcare

Oak House, Millennium Park, Naas,  
Co. Kildare, W91 KDC2

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[@hsecho7](https://twitter.com/hsecho7)

t (045) 882 597  
e [cho7.pqreps@hse.ie](mailto:cho7.pqreps@hse.ie)

**26 July 2023**

Seán Crowe TD  
Dáil Eireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**Ref: PQ 35437/23**

**Re:** *“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of children in the CHO 7 area currently waiting to access therapies by the CDNT, by category of therapy, in tabular form.”*

**- Seán Crowe**

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**Dear Deputy Crowe,**

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth to the Health Service Executive for direct response. I requested that a Business Manager in Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow examine the matter and the following outlines the position.

Under the ‘Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People’ programme (PDS) there have been considerable changes to the way services are provided across the country with services reconfiguring to reflect the new model of service. One of the tenets of the new model of services is an interdisciplinary approach, reflecting the complex needs across domains of development of the children requiring services from the CDNT. Children referred to the CDNT are accepted to the team according to the National Policy on Access to Health Services for Children with Disability or Developmental Delay (2019) due to their complexity of needs across a range of developmental domains, not for individual disciplines. This reflects the requirement for different professionals to work in an interdisciplinary method to meet the needs of children with complex needs arising from their disability. Once children are opened to the service depending on their individual needs identified, goals are set collaboratively with the families that may involve being placed on a wide range of different pathways of care. The CDNTs continue to respond to urgent clinical needs as defined in the National Policy on Prioritisation of Referrals to CDNTs (2016).

The Parliamentary Question posed by you in relation to waiting times for individual specialties does not align with the model of service or with the type of waiting lists we hold and therefore cannot be answered in that way.


The average waiting time in each Community Disability Network Teams is set out below:

Children's Disability Network Team	Average wait in June 2023 (since referral to a children's disability team for an initial contact in months)
CDNT 1	18.1
CDNT 2	16.72
CDNT 3	46
CDNT 4	23.34
CDNT 5	20
CDNT 6	23
CDNT 7	26.87
CDNT 8	48
CDNT 9	8.5
CDNT 10	24.1
CDNT 11	10.8

I trust this information is of use to you. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

P.P



Deborah Jacob

**Head of Service, Disability Services**

**Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare.**