



18th July 2023

Mr. Martin Browne TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 35458/23

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth further to Parliamentary Question No. 507 of 20 June 2023, to provide the waiting times for those children waiting for residential placement from the time they entered the system.

Dear Deputy Browne,

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

I have reviewed the matter and the following is the current position.

The following table sets out the waiting times for Priority 1 children across South East Community Healthcare Disability Services awaiting residential placement from the time their names were placed on the system. It is important to note that not all applicants were identified as Priority 1 at that time of request for residential placement.

No. of Children	Waiting Time by Year
1	6 years (2017) *Please note that this child was not originally assessed as Priority 1
1	4 Years (2019)
2	3 Years (2020)
1	2 Years (2021)
4	1 Year (2022)
5	2023

All requests for residential placement are recorded and managed through a system called the Disability Support Application Management Tool (DSMAT), which serves to ensure that the application process is equitable and transparent - the information on the DSMAT supports the decision making process.

South East Community Healthcare is acutely aware of the need for residential and respite places in the South East and are in on-going communication with service providers in this regard.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.



Yours sincerely,

Karen Fitzgerald
A/Head of Service – Disability Services
South East Community Healthcare