



Ceann Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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29/03/2023

Deputy Eoin Ó Broin
Dáil Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 14643/23 *“To ask the Minister for Health if he is aware there is currently a wait of 12 months, or more, for an initial community occupational therapy appointment in an area, and the action the HSE are taking to ensure appointments for this service are available in a shorter, more reasonable timeframe.”*

Deputy Eoin Ó Broin

Dear Deputy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for a response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Health Service Executive can confirm referrals to the Occupational Therapy Service (OT) are prioritised as per OT Department referral policy and standard operating procedure, and clients are seen based on that priority rating (P1/P2/P3). Clients who are P1 are contacted within 3-5 days and clients who are P2 and above are waitlisted. Due to the significant staff shortages our waiting times have increased, this has resulted in waiting times of greater than 12 months for P2/P3 client in certain areas.

Every effort is being made to reduce the waitlists and there are a number of actions being taken such as ongoing recruitment and rolling campaigns, agency recruitment and our HR staff are attending job fairs to attract clinical staff to our service.

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

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Farrelly

Interim Head of Service, Primary Care
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare