



13<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Mr. Duncan Smith T.D.,  
Leinster House  
Kildare St.  
Dublin 2

**Re: Parliamentary Question - 8960/24**

***“To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting period for Occupational Therapists within Primary Care Services in County Offaly”***

Dear Deputy Smith,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

Waiting times for Occupational Therapy referrals vary depending on the clinical priority of the referral. The most urgent referrals are seen within weeks with those with less clinical priority waiting a varying time period. The longest waiting in Offaly for non-urgent referrals are as follows:

***Paediatric OT Services:***

Age	Waiting Time
0-5years	121 weeks
5-18 years	253 weeks

***Adult OT Services:***

Age	Waiting Time
18-65years	224 weeks
65+	215 weeks

I trust the above is in order, please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

*Joseph Ruane*

*Head of Primary Care Services, Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation*