

25th June, 2024

Mr. Thomas Gould, T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 25826/ 24

“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of children currently awaiting a CDNT appointment in Cork, by CDNT, in tabular form.”

Dear Deputy Gould,

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

Children’s Disability Network Teams (CDNT’s) have been established to provide services and supports for children with complex disability needs within a defined geographic area. Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CKCH) is continuing to engage with its CDNT lead agencies with regard to the management of these teams.

Table 1 below presents the most recent appointment data and covers the total number of children awaiting an initial contact appointment within Children’s Disability Network Teams in Cork as at 31st May 2024.

The HSE and its Section 38 and Section 39 Lead Agencies are operating in a very competitive global market for healthcare talent as there are significant shortages of qualified healthcare professionals across the globe. This is impacting on full delivery of service to families.

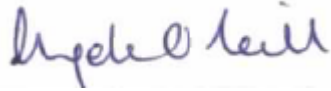
Table 1: Total Number of Children awaiting an initial contact (IA) appointment in Cork CDNTs

CDNT	CDNT Area	0 - 3 months	4 - 6 months	7 - 12 months	> 12 months	Overall Total
CDNT 4	North West Cork	18	9	3	1	31
CDNT 5	North East Cork	13	5	25	97	140
CDNT 6	East Central Cork	4	10	9	23	46
CDNT 7	East Cork City	22	15	30	10	77
CDNT 8	Central Cork	5	7	14	102	128
CDNT 9	North Cork City & Blarney	29	15	13	120	177
CDNT 10	West Cork	5	0	0	0	5
CDNT 11	South East Cork City	16	3	12	31	62
CDNT 12	West Central Cork	5	7	4	9	25
CDNT 13	Bandon/Carrigaline/Kinsale	9	6	9	41	65
CDNT 14	South Cork City	0	1	0	0	1
	Total by time period	126	78	119	434	757

It is regrettable that any child has to be wait listed for an appointment with a CDNT. The CDNT's prioritise on the basis of need and this ensures that those with the highest prioritised need will be seen first.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely,



Ms. Angela O'Neill,
Head of Disability Services,
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare.