



25th April 2024

Imelda Munster
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Re **PQ 13404/24**

To ask the Minister for Health the total number of children on a waiting list for their first appointment to CAMHS, by county in the CHO8; and a breakdown under the various lengths of time that they have been on the waiting list, in tabular form

Dear Deputy Munster,

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 outlined the position as follows

	Laois	Offaly	Longford	Westmeath
0-3 months	165	92	17	27
3-6 months	36	15	4	12
6-9 months	0	0	6	12
9-12 months	0	0	6	4
Over 12months	0	0	9*	

**There are currently 9 children waiting over 12 months in Longford/Westmeath Area broken downs as follows: Longford & North Westmeath: 8/ South Westmeath: 1*

	North Louth	South Louth	SouthLouth/East Meath	Ashbourne	North Meath	South Meath
0-3 months	6	11	15	28	17	18
3-6 months	6	6	21	13	14	19
6-9 months			11	25	14	12
9-12 months				19	10	9
Over 12 months	0	0	0	92	0	21



All new referrals are discussed weekly at the Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings and given an appointment date based on clinical need. The majority of urgent referrals will be seen within 1-2 weeks. Every effort is made to prioritise urgent referrals so that young people with high risk presentations are seen as soon as possible and this is often within 24hrs and/or 1 week. It should be noted that urgent new referrals impact on wait times for cases that are considered, by a clinician, to be of a less severe nature.

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

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Claire Donnelly', written in a cursive style.

Claire Donnelly
Acting Head of Mental Health Services