



26th May 2025

Mr. Liam Quaide TD
Dail Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 20444/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the waiting-list numbers and exact wait-times in months and years, per discipline, for young people in each Integrated health area of the Dublin and south east regional health area children's disability network teams, in tabular form; to include numbers of years waiting for young people waiting more than twelve months; and the longest wait-time in years and months as of 1st April 2025.

Dear Deputy Quaide,

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.

HSE Children's Disability Services has undergone significant reforms and restructuring over the past three years with the implementation of the Progressing Disability Services (PDS). The core focus of this change is to ensure that children and their families, with complex interdisciplinary needs, will receive an appropriate and accessible family centred service.

All children on CDNT registers, both CDNT waiting lists and open caseloads are likely to be waiting for some aspect of their intervention. As an interdisciplinary service, vacancies for some disciplines can further restrict the capacity to provide an intervention that requires more than one discipline.

The tables in Appendix 1 (attached) provide data on waiting lists for CDNTs across the integrated healthcare areas (IHAs) in HSE Dublin and South East. These numbers are based on the most recent data available which is captured at a specific point in time and subject to change. It should be noted that there are some variations in data collation across IHA areas. With the development of the new Dublin and East Region there will be an ongoing focus on data integration across our systems.

As with other areas, Disability Services are continuing to experience recruitment challenges. The HSE is operating in a very competitive market as there are significant shortages of qualified healthcare professionals nationally and internationally. HSE Dublin and South East continues to prioritise posts for all disciplines and to express posts out to current national panels where relevant.

The HSE acknowledge that waiting times for CDNT services at this time are not appropriate and particularly stressful for children and their families and will continue to



explore a range of options to enhance the recruitment and retention of essential staff into our CDNTs.

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

Yours sincerely,

Martina Queally
Regional Executive Officer

Appendix: CDNT Waiting Times, HSE Dublin and South East

*Please note Disability Services do not collate the wait times per discipline.

**There are currently some variations in data collation across IHA areas which impacts on comparability and ability to combine. With the development of the new Dublin and East Region there will be a focus on data integration across systems.

IHA Dublin South and Wicklow (end March 2025)

Metric	No. of Children	CDNT1	CDNT2	CDNT3	CDNT4	CDNT5	CDNT6	CDNT7
No. of children waiting 0-3 months on CDNT waiting list at month end	60	2	3	8	6	20	12	9
No. of children waiting 4-6 months on CDNT waiting list at month end	137	15	8	18	29	32	22	13
No. of children waiting 7-12 months on CDNT waiting list at month end	148	18	18	17	33	34	13	15
No. of children waiting over 12 months on CDNT waiting list at month end (by year of referral)								
2023	378	61	30	32	90	79	46	40
2022	421	60	18	56	57	127	59	44
2021	201	35	0	57	44	64	1	0
2020	56	17	0	38	0	1	0	0
2019	39	0	0	38	0	0	0	1
No. of children on CDNT waiting list at month end	1440	208	77	264	259	357	153	122

IHA Carlow, Kilkenny and Tipperary South and IHA Waterford and Wexford (end March 2025)

Metric	No. of children	CDNT 1	CDNT 2	CDNT 3	CDNT 4	CDNT 5	CDNT 6	CDNT7 Nth City Wat	CDNT 7 Sth City Wat	CDNT 8	CDNT 9	CDNT 10	CDNT 11
No. of children waiting 0-3 months at month end	78	12	2	4	6	5	9	6	4	12	13	3	2
No. of children waiting 4-6 months at month end	66	5	2	4	5	13	2	7	5	1	6	13	3
No. of children waiting 7-12 months month end	133	23	1	14	3	18	2	20	5	7	22	14	4
No. of children waiting over 12 months at month end	999	311	60	14	0	78	11	123	58	68	115	54	107
No. of children on CDNT waiting list at month end	1276	351	65	36	14	114	24	156	72	88	156	84	116