



Oifig an Bhainisteoir Limistéar Sláinte  
Comhtháite - Lár na Tíre

Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin, An Tulach  
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26<sup>th</sup> February, 2025

Mr Micheál Carrigy T.D.,  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**Re: Parliamentary Question - 2613/25**

**To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the current waiting times for paediatric Occupational Therapy through Phoenix Centre/Longford Primary Care Centre; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Carrigy,

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 response. I have examined the matter and outlined the position as follows.

The National Programme called Progressing Disability Services (PDS) for Children and Young People is now implemented. In this regard the Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNT's) have replaced the former Early Intervention and School Age Teams. The PDS model of service delivery is team focused with functional family goals rather than blocks of intervention with individual disciplines as was the practice in the past. Interdisciplinary teams provide a more integrated model of service delivery. Therefore the CDNT's including the Longford / Central Westmeath team operating out of the Phoenix Centre are no longer keeping waiting lists for separate disciplines within the team as this does not reflect the nature of support provided for children with complex needs.

In relation to Longford Primary Care, I can confirm that all referrals for children who are referred for occupational therapy in Primary Care are prioritised as per the regional Occupational Therapy prioritisation PPPG.

Priority 1.1 referrals have a target to be seen within 3 weeks (15 working days) on receipt of referral, and we are generally compliant with this timeline.

Priority 1.2 referrals have a target to be seen within 2 months on receipt of referral, and we are generally compliant with this timeline.



Non-priority/routine referrals are processed as soon as is reasonably possible with the resources available.

The current longest waiter on the routine Primary Care Children and Young Person's Occupational Therapy waiting list is 68 weeks.

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

Yours sincerely,

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Carole Broadbank  
Integrated Healthcare Area Manager, Midlands  
Dublin and Midlands Regional Area