

10th March 2025

Catherine Connolly TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Kildare St,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 7543/25: “To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of children waiting for services for each of the nine CDNTs in CHO2; the length of time children are waiting for initial contact from a CDNT; the waiting time for a child to receive an assessment of need after they receive an initial contact from each CDNT, by 0-3 months, 3-6 months, 6-12 months, 12-18 months, 18-24 months, and 24+ months, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter”.

Dear Deputy Connolly,

I refer to PQ 7543/25 uploaded on the PAD System on the 21st February 2025 and due for response on the 11th March 2025 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth concerning “the number of children waiting for services for each of the nine CDNTs in CHO2; the length of time children are waiting for initial contact from a CDNT; the waiting time for a child to receive an assessment of need after they receive an initial contact from each CDNT, by 0-3 months, 3-6 months, 6-12 months, 12-18 months, 18-24 months, and 24+ months, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter”. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

Please be advised that under the PDS model, Children’s Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) offer interdisciplinary support for children and young adults with complex needs. Following referral to the CDNTs an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) is initiated to ascertain the priorities of parents when met.

At this time the Assessment of Need Process is a separate application through the Assessment Officer under the Disability Act 2005.

Please see below the latest available data (January 2025) for CDNTs 1 - 9 which are the key metrics provided on a monthly basis to the National Disability Children’s and Families Team in Community Operations, HSE.

CDNT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
The number of children waiting for services for each of the nine CDNTs	3	13	6	14	51	178	82	13	335
The waiting time for a child after they receive an initial contact from each CDNT by 0-3 months	3	5	6	6	13	15	27	3	104

The waiting time for a child after they receive an initial contact from each CDNT by 3-6 months	0	8	0	3	8	12	8	2	74
The waiting time for a child after they receive an initial contact from each CDNT by 6-12 months	0	0	0	0	9	27	20	4	77
The waiting time for a child after they receive an initial contact from each CDNT by 12+ months	0	0	0	5	21	124	27	4	80

I trust that this response has clarified the matter that you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely,

General Manager,
Children's Disability Services,
Community Healthcare West.