



02.05.25

Deputy William Aird
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 8398/25 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of people on the Psychology waiting list; the exact wait-times in months and years for children and adolescents in Co. Laois Primary Care Service, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Aird,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Representation, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and outline the position as follows.

Service description

Laois Primary Care Psychology Services is a life span service providing short term episodic care to children, adolescence and adults. Children are seen in the order in which referrals were received, ensuring fairness and transparency. A significant offering of primary care is evidenced informed group-based interventions. The qualified staffing complement for Laois Primary Care Psychology is 2.0WTE.

In recent years there has been significant increase of referrals with the national Progressing Disability Strategy and a recategorisation of children with autism into primary care psychology service.

Primary Care response:

Data set	Age range	Numbers / Time
<i>No. of Children on Wait – List /</i>	0-4 years	347
<i>No. of Children on Wait – List /</i>	5-17 years	1345
TOTAL		1692
<i>Wait-Times in Months for Children/</i>	0-4 years	waiting times Average between 1 year- 1.5 years



<i>Wait-Times in Months for Children/</i>	5-17 years	waiting times Average between 1 year- 1.5 years
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Based on population breakdown this is estimated to be

Age Group	Estimated Number	Wait times
0-4 years	347	Average between 1 year- 1.5 years
5-12 years	827	Average between 1 year- 1.5 years
13-17 years	518	Average between 1 year- 1.5 years
Total	1692	Average between 1 year- 1.5 years

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

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Ruane
Head of Primary Care Services
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation