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Páirc Ghnó agus Teicneolaíochta,
Bóthar na Modh Feirme,
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22nd July, 2025

Mr. Thomas Gould., T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Dublin 2

PQ ref 38859/25

"To ask the Minister for Health to outline the number of people awaiting an occupational therapy appointment in each of the local health offices in Cork; the number who have been waiting less than three months; three to six months; six to 12 months; more than 12 months; broken down in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter."

Dear Deputy Gould,

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.

The table below outlines the number waiting for an occupational therapy appointment in Cork as of the end of June.

	North Cork	North Lee	South Lee	West Cork
Less than 3 Months	340	515	580	166
3 to 6 Months	83	346	514	157
6 to 12 Months	210	486	545	202
More than 12 Months	277	294	569	150

I acknowledge that the above wait times for services is less than desirable, and I apologise for same. This is as a consequence to a number of factors including a growth in demand for services and also the implications of deficits in staffing resources. Efforts to increase resources throughout and reduce waiting times are indeed our top priority. We are actively working on strategies to address resources allocation, validation of waiting lists, streamlining processes and optimising existing workloads, ultimately working towards providing timely access for all to services.

This is inclusive of approval of vacant/replacement posts for which recruitment is now ongoing and it is hoped that the increased resources will impact these waiting times.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mari O'Donovan
Interim Head of Service - Primary Care,
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