



Oifig an Cheannasaí Seirbhíse
Seirbhísí Míchumais,
FSS an Iarthar Láir,
Teach an Phiarsaigh,
Páirc Ghnó an Ráithín,
Luimneach
V94 1R71

Office of Head of Service
Disability Services,
HSE Mid West
Pearse House,
Raheen Business Park,
Limerick
V94 1R71

midwest.hse.ie
T: 061 464061

19th September 2025

Deputy Cathal Crowe
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Email: cathal.crowe@Oireachtas.ie

Re: PQ 47164/25

To ask the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality

- 1. How many staff currently work in the 6 CDNTs of CHO3 (including details of their whole-time-equivalent and discipline)*
- 2. How many positions remain unfilled in the 6 CDNTs of CHO3*
- 3. How many children are currently on the overall caseload of the 6 CDNTs of CHO3*
- 4. How many children at early intervention stage are currently on the caseload of the 6 CDNTs of CHO3*
- 5. How many children at early intervention stage are waiting >6 months, 12 months, >18 months and >2 years for an individual appointment in each discipline (SLT, OT, Psychology etc)*
- 6. Over the past year, per month how many children at early intervention stage have received individual appointments in each discipline (SLT, OT, Psychology etc)*
- 7. How many children at early intervention stage assigned to an SLT are pre-verbal/non-speaking*
- 8. How many children at early intervention stage are starting in an ASD class in national school in Sept 2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter.*

Dear Deputy Crowe,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Query that you submitted to the Minister for Children; Disability and Equality for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

HSE Mid West comprises of eight Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNT's).



We are in a position to provide a response to the following queries raised:

Question 1: How many staff currently work in the 6 CDNTs of CHO3 (including details of their whole-time-equivalent and discipline)

1. How many staff currently work in the CDNTs (including WTE and discipline)	June-25 ¹	
Discipline/Grade	Funded WTE	In Post
Health & Social Care Professionals	140.8	124.5
Dietitians	2	0
Occupational Therapists	32.3	29.7
Physiotherapists	20.2	17.1
Play Therapists / Specialists	2.8	2.8
Psychologists	29.5	25.0
Social Care	1.0	1.0
Social Workers	19.0	16.9
Speech & Language Therapists	34.0	32.0
Nursing	6.0	5.0
Clinical Nurse / Midwife Manager 1	1.6	1.6
Clinical Nurse / Midwife Manager 2	0.0	0.0
Clinical Nurse / Midwife Specialist	1.7	1.7
Public Health Nurse	0.0	0.0
Staff Nurses (General/Children's)	2.4	1.7
Patient & client Care	21.9	18.9
(Non-HSE) Early Intervention Educator	2.8	1.6
(Non-HSE) Health & social Care Assistant (Therapy Assistant)	2.3	2.3
(Non-HSE) Montessori Teacher	1.0	1.0
Family Support Worker	0.5	0.5
Health Care Assistant	1.0	1.0
HSCA (Therapy Assistant)	3.1	3.1
Occupational Therapy Assistant	2.8	2.0
Physiotherapy Assistant	0.8	0.8
Psychology Assistant	6.0	5.0
Speech & Language Therapy Assistant	1.8	1.8
CDNTs	8.0	8.0
Admin (Grade III to VI)	19.5	19.5
TOTAL	196.2	176.0

¹ Source: Children's Disability Network Team CDNT Q2 2025 CDNT Workforce Report (June 2025) Mid West



Question 2: How many positions remain unfilled in the Mid Wests 6 CDNTs?²

There are 20.2 positions that remain vacant, the vacancy rate, that is the number of vacancies that we have funding for but are currently vacant has decreased from 14% in October 2023 to 10% in April 2025.

Question 3: How many children are currently on the overall caseload of the 6 CDNTs of CHO3?

As of end of July, there are 6,151 children on the case of the 8 CDNTs in HSE Mid West

Question 4: How many children at early intervention stage are currently on the caseload of the 6 CDNTs of CHO3.

Unfortunately, we are not in a position to provide this data as it is not available from the Children's Disability Network Team Information Management System (CDNT-IMS).

Question 5: How many children at early intervention stage are waiting >6 months, 12 months, >18 months and >2 years for an individual appointment in each discipline (SLT, OT, Psychology etc)

No. of children waiting 0-3 months on the CDNT waiting list @ month end.	165
No. of children waiting 4-6 months on the CDNT waiting list @ month end.	143
No. of children waiting 7-12 months on the CDNT waiting list @ month end.	250
No. of children waiting over 12 months on the CDNT waiting list @ month end	635
Total no. of children on the CDNT waiting list @ month end	1,193

Question 6: Over the past year, per month how many children at early intervention stage have received individual appointments in each discipline (SLT, OT, Psychology etc.)

CDNT interventions are delivered through an interdisciplinary team approach rather than on a by discipline basis. While individual work does take place, family priorities are guided by the Individual Family Support Plan (IFSP), which does not always reflect 1:1 discipline-specific interventions. Data pertaining to each discipline individually is not available. The following data reflects individual and group based interventions from January to July 2025.

² Source: Children's Disability Network Team CDNT Q2 2025 CDNT Workforce Report (June 2025) Mid West



Question 6	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	June 2025	July 2025
No. of children (&/or their parents) on open CDNT caseload who participated in individual intervention appointment this month.	881	1,083	905	803	914	785	807
No. of children (&/or their parents) on open CDNT caseload who participated in a group intervention appointment this month.	220	315	314	281	326	197	201

Question 7: How many children at early intervention stage assigned to an SLT are pre-verbal/non-speaking.

Unfortunately, we are not in a position to provide this data as it is not available from the Children's Disability Network Team Information Management System (CDNT-IMS).

Question 8: How many children at early intervention stage are starting in an ASD class in national school in Sept 2025; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Unfortunately, we are not in a position to provide this data as it is not available from the Children's Disability Network Team Information Management System (CDNT-IMS). The National Council for Special Education (NCSE) is the appropriate source for this data.

I trust this clarifies the situation, but should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Marie Boyle
Acting Head of Service
Disability Services, HSE Mid West