



Oifig an Príomhoifigeach
Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Lár Tíre,
An Lú, An Mhí

Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,
Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin,
An Tulach Mhór, Co. Uíbh Fhailí.

Office of the Chief Officer
Community Health Organisation
Midlands Louth Meath

HSE,
Area Office, Arden Road,
Tullamore, Co Offaly

www.hse.ie
@hselive
@MLMCommHealth

t 057 9359787
e CHO8@hse.ie

6th June, 2024

Minister Sean Fleming T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Re: Parliamentary Questions – 15787/24 & 4061/24

To ask the Minister for Health to outline the current service in relation to the provision of physiotherapy and occupational therapy in a location (details supplied) for adults and separately for children; how many whole-time equivalent staff are providing this service and the number of people on the waiting list and the time of the longest waiter on the list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. -Sean Fleming

(Details) - Portlaoise and County Laois

Dear Minister Fleming,

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

Primary Care:

The following table details the number of Children and Adults on the Primary Care Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy waiting list in Laois, how long they have been waiting and the number of whole-time equivalent staff providing the service.

Primary Care Physiotherapy:

	Adults	Children
No. Waiting	3640	218
Longest waiting in weeks	278	351
WTE	*4.6	*5

*Some Primary Care Physiotherapy see a mixed caseload of adults and children for musculoskeletal issues.

Primary Care Occupational Therapy:

	Adults	Children
No. Waiting	519	529
Longest waiting in weeks	156	256
WTE	8.79	0



Mental Health Services:

Midlands Mental Health Services do not have any provision for physiotherapy. I have outlined the situation in relation to the provision of occupational therapy in tabular form as below:

Adults

Team	WTE	Open Cases	Waiting List Number	
Community Mental Health	1	38	41	
Rehab & Recovery	1	74	0	<i>OT provides input to all service users open to Rehab & Recovery</i>
Psychiatry of Later Life (Community Service & Maryborough Centre)	0	0	40	<i>Post is vacant due to recruitment pause, we are hoping to fill this post via agency.</i>
Department of Psychiatry, MRHP	0.8	<i>All present</i>	0	<i>OT work from an acute perspective, therefore all service users present in the Approved Centre are open to OT</i>
Total:	2.8	112	81	*Longest time on waiting list = 8 months

Children

Team	WTE	Open Cases	Waiting List Number	
CAMHS	1	20	25	<i>This OT has only joined the team in March 2024</i>
YAMHS	1	12	0	<i>This OT has only joined the team in March 2024</i>
Total:	2	32	25	*Longest time on waiting list = 6 months.



Disability Services

Services are provided across Laois / Offaly, with staff providing service across the two counties for adults. Children's services are provided via Networks (Network 12 - Portlaoise, Stradbally, Mountrath, Borris in Ossory, Abbeyleix, Ballickmyoyler and Network 11 Portarlinton, Mountmellick and Edenderry)

Children				
Discipline	WTE approved	WTE vacant	Current WTE	Comment on waiting time / numbers
Physiotherapy	6	3	3	The National Programme called Progressing Disability Services (PDS) for Children and Young People is now implemented. The PDS model of service delivery is team focussed with functional family goals rather than blocks of intervention with individual disciplines as was the practice in the past. There are now interdisciplinary teams which provide a more integrated model of service delivery. Therefore the Children's Disability Network Teams are no longer keeping waiting lists for separate disciplines within the team.
Occupational Therapy	12	5	7	

Adult				
Discipline	WTE approved	WTE vacant	Current WTE	Comment on waiting time / numbers
Physiotherapy	0	0	0	Physiotherapy services are provided by primary care.
Occupational Therapy	2	1	1	These two OT posts are for adults with moderate / severe /profound ID only. The current waiting time for services is approximately 18 months (OT services for people with P&S disability are provided via Primary Care services.



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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CB', written in a cursive style.

Carole Broadbank
Chief Officer
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation