

12<sup>th</sup> July, 2024

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

**PQ ref 30160/ 24**

**“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of people awaiting a first appointment in each of the CDNTs in Cork; the number who have been waiting less than three months; the number that have been waiting three to six months; the number that have been waiting six to 12 months; the number that have been waiting more than 12 months, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Gould,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for response.

Children’s Disability Network Teams (CDNT’s) have been established to provide services and supports for children with complex disability needs within a defined geographic area. Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CKCH) is continuing to engage with its CDNT lead agencies with regard to the management of these teams.

Table 1 below presents the most recent appointment data and covers the total number of children awaiting an initial contact appointment within Children’s Disability Network Teams in Cork as at 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2024.

The HSE and its Section 38 and Section 39 Lead Agencies are operating in a very competitive global market for healthcare talent as there are significant shortages of qualified healthcare professionals across the globe. This is impacting on full delivery of service to families.

*Table 1: Total Number of Children awaiting an initial contact (IA) appointment in Cork CDNTs*

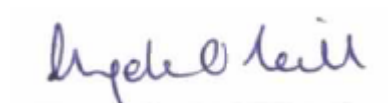
CDNT	CDNT Area	0 - 3 months	4 - 6 months	7 - 12 months	> 12 months	Overall Total
CDNT 04	North West Cork	13	6	4	2	25
CDNT 05	North East Cork	10	12	23	25	70*
CDNT 06	East Central Cork	8	6	15	20	49
CDNT 07	East Cork City	31	17	28	10	86
CDNT 08	Central Cork	5	11	21	35	72*
CDNT 09	North Cork City & Blarney	14	10	36	108	168
CDNT 10	West Cork	9	0	0	0	9
CDNT 11	South East Cork City	6	8	7	25	46
CDNT 12	West Central Cork	12	0	4	9	25
CDNT 13	Bandon/Carrigaline/Kinsale	7	11	7	29	54
CDNT 14	South Cork City	4	3	1	1	9
		<b>119</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>613</b>

\*You may note a large reduction in >12 month figures for CDNT5 and CDNT8 since our last response to you (ref: PQ 25826/24 which provided data as at 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2024). Figures had been incorrectly recorded by these CDNTs.

It is regrettable that any child has to be wait listed for an appointment with a CDNT. The CDNT's prioritise on the basis of need and this ensures that those with the highest prioritised need will be seen first.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely,



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**Ms. Angela O'Neill,**  
**Head of Disability Services,**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare.**