

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024

Deputy Denis Naughten  
Dáil Éireann  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ 36398/24 To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of children awaiting a speech and language appointment in CHO2; the breakdown of the time they have been on the waiting list; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Naughten,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

Please find as follows a breakdown of the number of children awaiting Speech and Language Therapy in Primary Care Services in Community Healthcare West:

Children Awaiting Speech and Language Appointments in CHO2							
	Galway			Mayo / Roscommon			Total
Time Waiting	Initial Assessment	Initial Therapy	Further Therapy	Initial Assessment	Initial Therapy	Further Therapy	
0 - 4 Months	365	211	327	4	147	158	1212
4 - 8 Months	194	86	148	0	32	9	469
8 - 12 Months	27	35	94	0	11	0	167
12 Months +	0	5	38	0	0	0	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>1891</b>

The above figures represent children waiting for Primary Care Services only. Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) offer interdisciplinary support so do not maintain waiting lists for individual therapies. Wait times for the CDNTs are not recorded per discipline but are recorded as per national key metrics since children's disability services reconfigured. Please find below figures collected from the most recent data set (August 2024):

Children Awaiting CDNT Therapies Community Healthcare West										
CDNT	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTALS
0-3 months	9	3	4	0	26	26	48	3	77	196
4-6 months	0	0	0	0	12	30	36	7	77	162

7-12 months	0	0	0	0	13	51	43	13	79	199
> 12 months	0	0	0	0	22	296	25	14	92	449
<b>Total</b>	9	3	4	0	73	403	152	37	325	<b>1006</b>

If you require any further information or clarification please do contact us.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Fitzmaurice". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end of the last name.

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**John Fitzmaurice**  
Chief Officer