

FOI 2439

12/06/24

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – INFORMATION REQUEST

Q1. Could you please provide general waiting list data?

Response:

For the purposes of this response we have defined “general waiting list” as Adult Service Users. The information given is reflective of the available data for the position as at 30 April 2024.

On 30 April 2024, there were a total of 2343 on the waiting list with the longest wait currently at 94 weeks

Q2. Could you also provide waiting list data for;

a) Children

Response:

The waiting list data held is in relation to elective work.

For CORE Occupational Therapy (OT) Team (excludes equipment, Moving and Handling or housing assessments) there are 1046 children on the waiting list with the longest wait currently at 95 weeks.

For the OT Children with disability (CWD) Team (housing, equipment and adaptations), there are 28 children on the waiting list with the longest wait currently at 35 weeks.

Q2b) Mental Health Patients

Response:

Primary Mental Health Services: There is 1 person on the waiting list, and the longest wait is 1 week.

Support and Recovery: There are 2 people on the waiting list, and the longest wait is 2 weeks.

Community Mental Health Rehabilitation: There are 5 people on the waiting list, and the longest wait is 5 weeks

Psychiatry of Old Age: There are 2 people on the waiting list, and the longest wait is 2 weeks.

There is no waiting list for OT input within Acute Mental Health Inpatients (Bluestone).

Q2c) Stroke Patients

Response Q2c:

At present, due to reduced staffing across the Community Stroke Team there is a waiting list in operation. There are a total of 27 patients waiting with the longest waiter currently at 11 weeks.

There is no waiting list for OT input within Acute and Non Acute Hospitals.

Q3. Could you provide information regarding the primary areas that occupational therapists are addressing or dealing with the most?

Response:

Occupational Therapists address the barriers to optimised functioning through interventions that focus on enhancing existing skills, creating opportunities, promoting wellness, modifying or adapting the environment or activity and therefore allowing service users to lead productive and meaningful lives.

Occupational Therapists assess cognitive, sensory, physical, environmental and social needs which can disrupt the ability to engage in occupations; the activities, roles and routines of everyday life that are important for service users and vital to maintain wellbeing e.g. self-care, productivity/work, education and leisure.

The primary areas will vary across OT service areas however in the main will include:

- Environmental Assessment: evaluation and adaptation of the environment at home/ work, to promote an individual's optimal functioning by provision of minor aids and housing adaptations.
- Functional Assessments and rehabilitation approach to facilitate the development of skills needed for independent living such as activities of daily living, using community resources, managing one's home, daily routine and being safe at home and in the community. Functional Assessments are required for Case management and OT staff make recommendations for and review Domiciliary Care Packages.
- Vocational Assessments and occupational focused work e.g. facilitating Vocational Clinics, supporting Supported Employment, leisure, routine and structure. Mental health Occupational Therapy staff currently have a vocational working group.
- Cognitive Assessments and providing cognitive/memory rehabilitation strategies.
- Group and psychoeducational programs e.g. Recovery through Activity, Destination Wellness, Personal Development including assertiveness, self-



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esteem, social skills and anxiety/stress management. Acute inpatient treatment provides daily tailored OT groups to meet assessed need.

- Mental State and Risk Assessments
- Neurological assessment and interventions
- Sensory processing difficulties
- Developmental coordination disorder assessment
- Children awaiting an ASD diagnosis – sensory processing difficulties
- Poor fine motor skills
- Handwriting delay
- Self-help skills assessment
- Moving and handling Risk Assessments and safe systems
- Housing adaptations major and minor works
- Wheelchair assessment and provision
- Provision of equipment including postural management solutions, showering, toileting equipment, moving and handling equipment and household lifts.
- Developmental and upper limb function assessments
- Impact of difficulties in education including – staff training / equipment recommendations / access assessment and adaptation recommendation / statement reports.

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