

Oifig an tUas. Pat Bennett, 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. **(: 057 9359787/774 \$\star{1}: 057 9358065 *0: CHO8@hse.ie** Office of Mr. Pat Bennett, Chief Officer, Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation, Health Service Executive, Area Office, Arden Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly (: 057 9359787/774 #: 057 9358065 *0: CHO8@hse.ie

17th May, 2019

Mr. Mattie McGrath T.D., Dáil Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question – 17885/19

To ask the Minister for Health if it is policy in CHO area 8 that access to speech and language therapy for children is not age dependent and that in cases in which a child is assessed as having potential for further improvement that intervention can and will be provided; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Mattie McGrath

Dear Deputy McGrath,

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

I can confirm that access to speech and language therapy for children in Midlands Louth Meath is not age dependent and that in cases in which a child is assessed as having potential for further improvement that intervention will be provided within context of clinical need and available resources.

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,

Pat Bennett Chief Officer CHO Area 8