



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

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.

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19th December, 2019

Mr. Brian Stanley T.D.,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question – 50877/19

To ask the Minister for Health the number of children in counties Laois and Offaly awaiting speech and language therapy; and the number waiting over 1, 2 and 3 years, respectively - Brian Stanley.

Dear Deputy Stanley,

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.

Laois/Offaly Speech and Language Therapy

There are currently 840 children waiting for Speech and language therapy. 320 of these children have received an assessment and are awaiting treatment.

There are 520 children waiting for an assessment. The SLT department dedicate 3 months of the year to new assessments and as a result no child waits more than 16 weeks for an assessment. 450 of these children should receive an assessment by the end of December.

Numbers Waiting

Waiting over 12 months: 37 children for initial therapy. These children have had an SLT assessment.

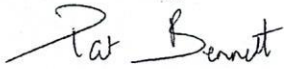
Waiting over 24 months: 0 children

There are 38 children waiting over 12 months for further therapy. These children will all have had speech and language therapy in the past and have been identified as requiring additional speech and language therapy.

For reference: 1694 people have been referred to the speech and language therapy department at the end of November. There are currently 1883 children receiving a service from the SLT department.

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 read 'Pat Bennett', written in a cursive style.

Pat Bennett
Chief Officer CHO Area 8