



20th December 2019

Deputy Louise O'Reilly,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 51944/19 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on the speech and language therapy assessment waiting list; and the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months, respectively by LHO in tabular form

-Louise O'Reilly

Dear Deputy O'Reilly,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for response.

Speech & Language Therapy is one of a range of multidisciplinary health services provided through Primary Care in Community Healthcare Organisations. Speech & Language Therapists are healthcare professionals who assess, diagnose, and treat people with communication difficulties. Speech & Language Therapy services include helping people who experience difficulties with speech, language, fluency, voice and swallowing.

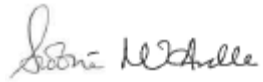
Please find attached Appendix 1 which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting list for Speech and Language Therapy in community services as of October 2019 for 0 -17 years old patients awaiting initial assessment. Please note that November waiting list data as requested will not be generated until the end of December.

Please note that where there is a zero in a particular field in most instances this means there is nobody on the waiting list for the particular LHO / period of time waiting. It is important to note that the overall total in the attachments represents the entirety of the waiting lists. The HSE is working to ensure timely access to children and adults requiring speech and language therapy services, and to reduce long waiting times for this important service.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality Speech and Language services to all eligible service users. In 2018 there were 276,323 attendances at HSE community Speech and Language clinics.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Siobhán McArdle,
Head of Operations Primary Care,
Community Operations

APPENDIX 1

Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years old patients waiting for Initial Assessment - October 2019

LHO	0 to 4 Mths	4 months & 1 day - 8 months	8 months & 1 day - 12 months	12 months & 1 day - 18 months	18 months & 1 day to 24 months	>24 months	Total
Cavan Monaghan	388	109	62	3	0	0	562
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	14	0	0	0	0	0	14
CHO1	402	109	62	3	0	0	576
Galway	360	19	7	0	0	0	386
Mayo	250	0	0	0	0	0	250
Roscommon	41	0	0	0	0	0	41
CHO2	651	19	7	0	0	0	677
Clare	172	12	4	0	0	1	189
Limerick	364	103	13	0	0	0	480
North Tipperary East Limerick	162	95	8	0	0	0	265
CHO3	698	210	25	0	0	1	934
Kerry	157	0	0	0	0	0	157
North Cork	160	44	0	0	0	0	204
North Lee	350	62	0	0	0	0	412
South Lee	328	37	33	57	36	104	595
West Cork	74	0	0	0	0	0	74
CHO4	1,069	143	33	57	36	104	1,442
Carlow Kilkenny	198	6	0	0	0	0	204
South Tipperary	192	35	0	0	0	0	227
Waterford	134	19	0	0	0	0	153
Wexford	231	262	189	7	0	0	689
CHO5	755	322	189	7	0	0	1,273
Dublin South East	122	36	19	22	17	0	216
Dun Laoghaire	120	50	13	10	12	0	205
Wicklow	6	12	27	0	0	0	45
CHO6	248	98	59	32	29	0	466
Dublin South City	168	91	31	44	3	0	337
Dublin South West	242	57	36	94	88	205	722
Dublin West	156	245	168	58	13	0	640
Kildare West Wicklow	383	117	4	0	0	0	504
CHO7	949	510	239	196	104	205	2,203
Laos Offaly	319	0	0	0	0	0	319
Longford Westmeath	270	123	75	0	0	0	468
Louth	238	0	0	0	0	0	238
Meath	64	42	0	0	0	0	106
CHO8	891	165	75	0	0	0	1,131
Dublin North	519	303	113	40	8	0	983
Dublin North Central	151	231	155	6	0	0	543
Dublin North West	373	281	107	73	0	0	834
CHO9	1,043	815	375	119	8	0	2,360
Total	6,706	2,391	1,064	414	177	310	11,062

Note: October data not returned for Donegal