



20<sup>th</sup> December 2019

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

**PQ 51945/19 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on the occupational therapy first-time assessment waiting list in each local health office area; the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months, respectively; and the number waiting aged 0 to 4, 5 to 17, 18 to 64 and 65 or more years of age, respectively in each category in tabular form**

**PQ 51946/19 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on the occupational therapy first-time assessment waiting list; the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months, respectively; and the numbers waiting aged under 4, 5 to 17, 18 to 64 and more than 65 years of age, respectively by category and 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.

Occupational Therapy is one of a range of multi-disciplinary services provided through Community Healthcare Organisations. Occupational Therapy is a healthcare profession offering support to people with physical, psychological and social problems to enable them to live life to the fullest. Occupational therapists help people to do the everyday activities that they want to do and need to do when faced with illness, injury, and disability or challenging life events.

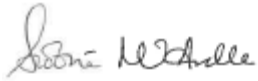
Please find attached Appendix 1 which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting list for Occupational Therapy in community services as of October 2019. Please note that November waiting list data as requested will not be generated until the end of December.

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 occupational therapy services, and to reduce long waiting times for this important service.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality occupational therapy services to all eligible service users. In 2018 there were 356,716 attendances at HSE community occupational therapy clinics.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



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Siobhán McArdle,  
Head of Operations Primary Care,  
Community Operations