



20th December 2019

Deputy Eamon Scanlon,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 52594/19 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on the speech and language therapy assessment waiting list in each CHO at the latest date available; and the number waiting 0 to 3, 3 to 6, 6 to 9, 9 to 12, 12 to 18, 18 to 24 and more than 24 months, respectively

-Eamon Scanlon

Dear Deputy Scanlon,

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.

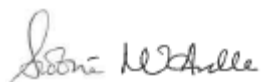
Please find attached Appendix 1 which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists for Speech and Language Therapy Initial Assessment in community services as of October 2019. Please note that November waiting list data as requested will not be generated until the end of December.

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 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 - Total Number of patients awaiting 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	549	138	93	10	0	0	790
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	93	16	0	0	0	0	109
CHO1	642	154	93	10	0	0	899
Galway	481	34	16	6	10	15	562
Mayo	269	3	0	5	0	0	277
Roscommon	54	11	2	3	1	0	71
CHO2	804	48	18	14	11	15	910
Clare	202	12	4	0	0	1	219
Limerick	381	105	13	0	0	0	499
North Tipperary East Limerick	170	97	8	0	0	0	275
CHO3	753	214	25	0	0	1	993
Kerry	184	0	0	0	0	0	184
North Cork	212	44	0	0	0	0	256
North Lee	373	63	0	0	0	0	436
South Lee	368	37	33	57	36	104	635
West Cork	89	0	0	0	0	0	89
CHO4	1,226	144	33	57	36	104	1,600
Carlow Kilkenny	306	34	12	0	0	0	352
South Tipperary	245	38	0	0	0	0	283
Waterford	174	23	1	0	0	0	198
Wexford	249	266	189	7	0	0	711
CHO5	974	361	202	7	0	0	1,544
Dublin South East	165	36	19	22	17	0	259
Dun Laoghaire	120	50	13	10	12	0	205
Wicklow	234	67	28	0	0	0	329
CHO6	519	153	60	32	29	0	793
Dublin South City	235	120	35	44	3	0	437
Dublin South West	348	147	36	94	88	205	918
Dublin West	209	259	169	65	13	5	720
Kildare West Wicklow	413	117	4	0	0	0	534
CHO7	1,205	643	244	203	104	210	2,609
Laois Offaly	443	82	9	16	8	4	562
Longford Westmeath	481	153	80	3	0	0	717
Louth	265	25	0	0	0	0	290
Meath	524	251	65	111	49	0	1,000
CHO8	1,713	511	154	130	57	4	2,569
Dublin North	572	303	113	40	8	0	1,036
Dublin North Central	282	303	199	36	6	0	826
Dublin North West	520	392	179	73	0	0	1,164
CHO9	1,374	998	491	149	14	0	3,026
Total	9,210	3,226	1,320	602	251	334	14,943

Note : October data not returned for Donegal