



18th December 2019

Deputy Thomas Byrne,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 53094/19 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for a speech and language therapy assessment in each CHO; and the number in each CHO waiting more than eight months, one and two years, respectively

PQ 53095/19 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for speech and language therapy initial therapy in each CHO; and the number in each CHO waiting more than eight months, one and two years, respectively

PQ 53096/19 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children waiting for speech and language further therapy in each CHO; and the number in each CHO waiting more than eight months, one and two years, respectively

-Thomas Byrne

Dear Deputy Byrne,

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 Appendices which contain, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists for Speech and Language 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.

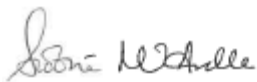
- Appendix 1 – Speech and Language Therapy Number of 0-17 years old patients awaiting Initial Assessment
- Appendix 2 – Speech and Language Therapy Number of 0-17 years old patients awaiting Initial Therapy
- Appendix 3 – Speech and Language Therapy Number of 0-17 years old patients awaiting Further Therapy

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

APPENDIX 2

Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years old patients waiting for Initial Therapy - 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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	19	0	0	0	0	0	19
CHO1	19	0	0	0	0	0	19
Galway	170	40	3	0	0	0	213
Mayo	105	36	3	1	0	0	145
Roscommon	83	54	0	0	0	0	137
CHO2	358	130	6	1	0	0	495
Clare	53	46	20	4	0	0	123
Limerick	128	43	22	24	0	0	217
North Tipperary East Limerick	36	11	0	0	0	0	47
CHO3	217	100	42	28	0	0	387
Kerry	74	16	1	0	0	0	91
North Cork	84	53	31	23	0	0	191
North Lee	183	188	145	31	14	7	568
South Lee	116	131	37	0	0	0	284
West Cork	51	29	13	1	0	0	94
CHO4	508	417	227	55	14	7	1,228
Carlow Kilkenny	103	137	93	166	60	0	559
South Tipperary	114	111	40	11	0	0	276
Waterford	118	122	143	169	16	1	569
Wexford	162	127	96	73	28	0	486
CHO5	497	497	372	419	104	1	1,890
Dublin South East	89	0	0	0	0	0	89
Dun Laoghaire	103	20	0	0	0	0	123
Wicklow	6	3	2	19	0	0	30
CHO6	198	23	2	19	0	0	242
Dublin South City	94	108	65	84	46	4	401
Dublin South West	136	91	60	64	0	0	351
Dublin West	157	160	135	96	40	24	612
Kildare West Wicklow	79	9	5	0	0	0	93
CHO7	466	368	265	244	86	28	1,457
Laos Offaly	107	125	98	19	0	0	349
Longford Westmeath	118	75	8	0	0	0	201
Louth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meath	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO8	225	200	106	19	0	0	550
Dublin North	417	392	124	0	0	0	933
Dublin North Central	58	32	18	0	0	0	108
Dublin North West	220	95	45	6	0	0	366
CHO9	695	519	187	6	0	0	1,407
Total	3,183	2,254	1,207	791	204	36	7,675

Note: October data not returned for Donegal

APPENDIX 3

Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years old patients waiting for Further Therapy - 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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	11	0	0	0	0	0	11
CHO1	11	0	0	0	0	0	11
Galway	528	109	70	1	47	17	772
Mayo	84	3	0	0	0	0	87
Roscommon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO2	612	112	70	1	47	17	859
Clare	169	156	53	0	14	1	393
Limerick	356	203	107	0	58	35	759
North Tipperary East Limerick	91	93	49	0	0	0	233
CHO3	616	452	209	0	72	36	1,385
Kerry	233	90	2	0	0	0	325
North Cork	148	70	40	0	35	0	293
North Lee	187	268	177	29	44	12	717
South Lee	164	178	91	16	27	17	493
West Cork	220	103	32	0	8	0	363
CHO4	952	709	342	45	114	29	2,191
Carlow Kilkenny	70	84	21	0	8	0	183
South Tipperary	0	196	295	0	2	0	493
Waterford	5	38	17	1	18	3	82
Wexford	70	105	87	1	64	29	356
CHO5	145	423	420	2	92	32	1,114
Dublin South East	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dun Laoghaire	10	0	0	0	0	0	10
Wicklow	12	14	0	0	0	0	26
CHO6	22	14	0	0	0	0	36
Dublin South City	131	170	86	3	88	77	555
Dublin South West	250	183	136	0	151	4	724
Dublin West	214	353	242	34	113	77	1,033
Kildare West Wicklow	106	21	0	0	0	0	127
CHO7	701	727	464	37	352	158	2,439
Laos Offaly	53	58	29	0	53	0	193
Longford Westmeath	299	171	74	0	0	0	544
Louth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meath	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO8	352	229	103	0	53	0	737
Dublin North	666	612	191	0	0	0	1,469
Dublin North Central	59	110	68	0	6	0	243
Dublin North West	310	176	91	0	16	0	593
CHO9	1,035	898	350	0	22	0	2,305
Total	4,446	3,564	1,958	85	752	272	11,077

Note: October data not returned for Donegal