

Office of the Head of Operations Primary Care, Community Operations

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Oifig Ceann na n-Oibríochtaí, Cúraim Phríomhúil, Oibríochtaí Pobail Ospidéal Dr. Steevens' Baile Atha Cliath 8, DO8 W2A8

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Deputy James Browne, Dáil Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

PQ 53501/19 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children awaiting a primary care psychology appointment on 30 November 2019; the number waiting over 3 months and over 1, 2 and 3 years, respectively; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-James Browne

Dear Deputy Browne,

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.

Please see attached Appendix 1 which shows the number of persons aged 0 - 17 awaiting Psychology treatment at October 2019 in tabular form by LHO Area and by time waiting. Please note this is the most recent data available at this time. Please note that information on the number of children awaiting over 1, 2, or 3 years is not specifically collated and is included in the figure for >52 weeks.

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 Psychology services to all eligible service users. In 2018 there were 42,375 attendances at HSE community Psychology clinics.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Sooni Whalle

Siobhán McArdle, Head of Operations Primary Care, **Community Operations**