



**Cúram Sláinte  
Phobail, Iarthar**  
ag freastal ar Ghaillimh,  
Maigheo agus Ros Comáin

**Community  
Healthcare West**  
serving Galway, Mayo  
and Roscommon

Ceannasaí na Seirbhísí Bunchúraim  
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15<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Seán Canney  
St. David's  
The Mall  
Tuam  
County Galway

**PQ 40658/20**

**To ask the Minister for Health his plans to deal with the unacceptable waiting time of 82 weeks for an audiology appointment from the date of referral in County Galway; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Canney,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

During Covid-19, the Audiology services had essentially ceased due to the redeployment of staff, however we have now secured local approval to backfill posts and have secured two agency clinicians. As a result of this, our capacity has increased with clinics running at weekends in Galway on Saturday's and Sunday's since October.

We have also recently filled 3 WTE Audiologist positions since November due to the rolling campaign with the NRS.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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**Frank Murphy**  
Head of Primary Care  
Community Healthcare West