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22nd December 2020

Donnchadh O' Laoghaire T.D.,
 Dáil Éireann,
 Dublin 2

PQ ref 43837/20

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of appointments under the school dental service in Cork city in each of the past 15 years by child."

Dear Deputy O'Laoghaire,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The Primary Care Dental services team provides dental treatment services to eligible children, medical card holders, special needs clients and others in the care of the HSE at various locations throughout Co. Cork. Children under 16 years of age are treated in HSE dental clinics and adults are treated by private dental practitioners contracted to the Health Services under the Dental Treatment Services Scheme (DTSS). The HSE Primary Care Dental Service provides a school screening dental service which targets pupils in 2nd and 6th classes.

The activity data as recorded for Dental Services in Cork amalgamates the data of both city and county and also of the entire eligible patient cohorts. Activity data is recorded using the SOEL system since 2016. It is not possible to extrapolate data for Cork City schools or for children only as per your request. However, outlined below is the available data for patients in Cork City and County from September 2012 to date (i.e., North Lee, South Lee, North Cork & West Cork).

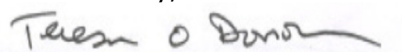
Sept 2012 - 2013	Sept 2013 - 2014	Sept 2014 - 2015	Sept 2015 - 2016	Sept 2016 - 2017	Sept 2017 - 2018	Sept 2018 - 2019	Sept 2019 - 2020
10,200*	10,300*	12,122	12,610	13,377	14,145	14,142	9,060**

*Incomplete figure as school numbers were not recorded for a small number of schools

** The 2019/20 figure includes the period of the Covid-19 pandemic when services were disrupted

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Teresa O' Donovan
 Head of Service - Primary Care,
 Cork Kerry Community Healthcare