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Head of Service Primary Care, HSE Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City & County, Ballymun Healthcare Facility, Ballymun, Dublin 9, DO9 C8P5.

6<sup>th</sup> August 2020

PQ 19821/20 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of children and adults on the dental appointment waiting list in Dublin 7 and Dublin 15; the average waiting time for appointments; and if he will make a statement on the matter. – Paul Donnelly

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

Mr. Paul Donnelly, TD

Dáil Éireann,

Dublin 2

Kildare Street,

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. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Please find below the current Dental Service waiting list figures for Dublin 7 and Dublin 15 as requested. Please note that the Oral Surgery and Special Care waiting list could not be separated from the figures for the whole of Dublin West as the figures are not collated separately.

In addition to those on the waiting lists, we also have patients who had appointments cancelled during the pandemic when all routine dental treatment was shut down nationally. Those cancelled patients will also need to be seen before we start to call those on the waiting lists.

It is envisaged nationally, the Dental services will not be in a position to offer an appointment to any children in  $2^{nd}$  and  $4^{th}$  class on the waiting list who were not examined before the pandemic. This is as a result of the loss of clinical time for routine dentistry during the pandemic and also because of the on-going restrictions on numbers that can be seen in order to comply with public health advice on social distancing and increased cross infection control in the surgery environment.

It is anticipated that every effort will be made to ensure all other groups including the  $6^{th}$  class from 2019/2020 who are on a waiting list will get offered an appointment.

Waiting list	D7	D15	Dublin North West
Target classes 2 <sup>nd</sup> .4 <sup>th</sup> ,6 <sup>th</sup> 2019/2020	1514	4197	
Hygienist	58	222	
Oral Surgery	N/A	N/A	84
Special care	N/A	N/A	1300

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Des O'Flynn Head of Service Primary Care

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