



11th March 2020

Deputy Stephen Donnelly,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

3522/20 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children under 18 years of age waiting for a first assessment for speech and language therapy at the end of February 2020 or the latest date available by LHO; and the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months in tabular form

3523/20 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children under 18 years of age waiting for initial speech and language therapy at the end of February 2020 or the latest date available by LHO; and the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months in tabular form

3524/20 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children under 18 years of age waiting for further speech and language therapy at the end of February 2020 or the latest date available by LHO; and the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months in tabular form

-Stephen Donnelly

Dear Deputy Donnelly,

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 January. Please note that February waiting list data as requested will not be generated until the end of March.

- 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 year old patients awaiting initial therapy
- Appendix 3 – Speech and Language Therapy Number of 0-17 year 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.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Siobhán McArdle', written in a cursive style.

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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 - January 2020

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	223	101	54	25	0	0	403
Donegal	390	115	0	0	0	0	505
Sligo Leitrim	23	0	0	0	0	0	23
CHO1	636	216	54	25	0	0	931
Galway	399	78	56	10	4	4	551
Mayo	161	25	1	0	0	0	187
Roscommon	147	0	0	0	0	0	147
CHO2	707	103	57	10	4	4	885
Clare	207	55	13	3	5	0	283
Limerick	385	113	12	24	52	8	594
North Tipperary East Limerick	194	65	10	0	0	0	269
CHO3	786	233	35	27	57	8	1,146
Kerry	159	1	0	0	0	0	160
North Cork	211	17	0	0	0	0	228
North Lee	367	16	0	0	0	0	383
South Lee	360	18	38	50	53	64	583
West Cork	70	0	0	0	0	0	70
CHO4	1,167	52	38	50	53	64	1,424
Carlow Kilkenny	229	0	0	0	0	0	229
South Tipperary	221	42	0	0	0	0	263
Waterford	216	28	2	0	0	0	246
Wexford	294	225	172	9	0	0	700
CHO5	960	295	174	9	0	0	1,438
Dublin South East	114	60	13	26	26	0	239
Dun Laoghaire	41	41	18	15	10	8	133
Wicklow	6	12	14	0	0	0	32
CHO6	161	113	45	41	36	8	404
Dublin South City	205	21	24	33	19	0	302
Dublin South West	24	178	39	50	104	259	654
Dublin West	190	209	153	80	5	1	638
Kildare West Wicklow	434	156	0	0	0	0	590
CHO7	853	564	216	163	128	260	2,184
Laos Offaly	327	7	0	0	0	0	334
Longford Westmeath	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Louth	206	0	0	0	0	0	206
Meath	201	100	25	5	2	0	333
CHO8	734	107	25	5	2	0	873
Dublin North	512	401	179	50	32	0	1,174
Dublin North Central	136	181	205	19	0	0	541
Dublin North West	386	324	203	65	23	3	1,004
CHO9	1,034	906	587	134	55	3	2,719
Total	7,038	2,589	1,231	464	335	347	12,004

APPENDIX 2

**Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years old patients waiting for Initial Therapy -
January 2020**

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	49	0	0	0	0	0	49
Sligo Leitrim	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
CHO1	52	0	0	0	0	0	52
Galway	139	86	50	64	70	135	544
Mayo	88	6	0	0	0	0	94
Roscommon	46	16	0	0	0	0	62
CHO2	273	108	50	64	70	135	700
Clare	50	56	16	7	0	0	129
Limerick	90	62	22	12	26	8	220
North Tipperary East Limerick	45	7	4	0	0	0	56
CHO3	185	125	42	19	26	8	405
Kerry	80	18	3	0	0	0	101
North Cork	101	64	38	12	0	0	215
North Lee	168	179	145	52	19	11	574
South Lee	208	147	64	5	0	4	428
West Cork	54	29	11	1	0	0	95
CHO4	611	437	261	70	19	15	1,413
Carlow Kilkenny	88	106	124	141	126	0	585
South Tipperary	101	90	57	8	0	0	256
Waterford	67	106	153	163	110	0	599
Wexford	97	117	95	83	27	2	421
CHO5	353	419	429	395	263	2	1,861
Dublin South East	18	1	0	0	0	0	19
Dun Laoghaire	29	12	0	0	0	0	41
Wicklow	16	6	6	28	0	0	56
CHO6	63	19	6	28	0	0	116
Dublin South City	117	96	63	84	63	17	440
Dublin South West	120	113	78	50	23	0	384
Dublin West	156	168	136	122	52	40	674
Kildare West Wicklow	75	0	0	0	0	0	75
CHO7	468	377	277	256	138	57	1,573
Laos Offaly	112	133	89	13	0	0	347
Longford Westmeath	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Louth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meath	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO8	112	133	89	13	0	0	347
Dublin North	270	396	160	8	0	0	834
Dublin North Central	71	40	38	12	0	0	161
Dublin North West	128	126	54	9	2	1	320
CHO9	469	562	252	29	2	1	1,315
Total	2,586	2,180	1,406	874	518	218	7,782

APPENDIX 3

Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years old patients waiting for Further Therapy - January 2020

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	444	100	0	0	0	0	544
Sligo Leitrim	7	1	0	0	0	0	8
CHO1	451	101	0	0	0	0	552
Galway	600	267	23	17	3	4	914
Mayo	132	14	0	0	0	0	146
Roscommon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO2	732	281	23	17	3	4	1,060
Clare	225	171	55	13	0	0	464
Limerick	417	176	91	67	25	9	785
North Tipperary East Limerick	171	79	33	0	0	0	283
CHO3	813	426	179	80	25	9	1,532
Kerry	273	125	7	0	0	0	405
North Cork	178	77	43	15	0	0	313
North Lee	208	239	194	73	23	39	776
South Lee	188	110	103	51	11	21	484
West Cork	143	143	39	6	0	0	331
CHO4	990	694	386	145	34	60	2,309
Carlow Kilkenny	82	73	66	12	0	0	233
South Tipperary	0	180	268	0	0	0	448
Waterford	10	23	29	21	13	0	96
Wexford	137	85	74	41	22	4	363
CHO5	229	361	437	74	35	4	1,140
Dublin South East	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dun Laoghaire	30	0	0	0	0	0	30
Wicklow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO6	30	0	0	0	0	0	30
Dublin South City	139	115	64	70	75	33	496
Dublin South West	238	228	132	118	37	1	754
Dublin West	239	248	281	111	74	56	1,009
Kildare West Wicklow	101	5	0	0	0	0	106
CHO7	717	596	477	299	186	90	2,365
Laos Offaly	93	44	15	24	4	0	180
Longford Westmeath	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Louth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meath	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO8	93	44	15	24	4	0	180
Dublin North	669	625	206	4	0	0	1,504
Dublin North Central	140	41	79	30	0	0	290
Dublin North West	248	166	103	26	1	0	544
CHO9	1,057	832	388	60	1	0	2,338
Total	5,112	3,335	1,905	699	288	167	11,506