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11<sup>th</sup> March 2020

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

**PQ 3630/20 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in each LHO area waiting for a podiatry appointment in primary care at the end of February 2020 or the latest date available; and the numbers waiting 0 to 12, 12 to 26, 26 to 52 and more than 52 weeks**

**-James Browne**

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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.

Podiatry is one of a range of multi-disciplinary services provided through Primary Care in Community Healthcare Organisations. Podiatrists provide assessment, diagnosis and intervention programmes for people with lower-limb and foot-related problems. Access to podiatry is an important element of community based care for frail older people and people with chronic health conditions.

Please find attached Appendix 1 which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting list for Podiatry in community services as of January 2020. Please note that February waiting list data as requested will not be generated until the end of March.

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 ophthalmology services, and to reduce long waiting times for this important service.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality podiatry services to all eligible service users. In 2019 there were 82,380 attendances at HSE podiatry clinics in the community.

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