



13th November 2020

**Deputy Cathal Crowe,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.**

PQ 34263/20 - 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 October 2020 or the latest date available; the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months for each local health office area in tabular form

PQ 34264/20 - 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 October 2020 or the latest date available; the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months for each local health office area in tabular form

PQ 34265/20 - 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 October 2020 or the latest date available; the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months for each local health office area in tabular form

-Cathal Crowe

Dear Deputy Crowe,

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.

The spread of COVID-19 is posing significant challenges for many service areas, including all Therapy Services. In light of these unprecedented challenges together with the Government's guidance on social distancing and on 'Cocooning' for those aged over 70, the HSE has had to reassess its operation of Community Therapy Services nationally, to ensure that the assessed needs of those clients with the highest priority are met.

As a result of the national effort across all Community Healthcare Organisations throughout the country, some aspects of normal monthly reporting have been delayed. Preliminary data currently available reflects the period to the end of September 2020 which is the latest data available at this time. Please see below appendices which contain the following in tabular form;

Appendix 1 – Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years & 11 months old patients awaiting Initial Assessment - September 2020

Appendix 2 – Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years & 11 months old patients awaiting Initial Therapy – September 2020

Appendix 3 – Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years & 11 months old patients awaiting Further Therapy - September 2020

Please note the list of LHO areas at the bottom of the Appendix which did not return data, as some areas were not in a position to return data due to staff being redeployed to Covid-19 related duties. Please also note that because of this the overall accuracy of the waiting list data is impacted.

The HSE is working to ensure timely access to children and adults requiring therapy services, and to reduce long waiting times for these important services.

As this is an evolving and unprecedented situation, the HSE will keep matters in review and will advise clients and/or family members accordingly.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Pp

Siobhán McArdle,
Head of Operations Primary Care,
Community Operations

APPENDIX 1

Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years & 11 months old patients awaiting Initial Assessment - September 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	177	143	400	93	31	0	844
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO1	177	143	400	93	31	0	844
Galway	344	381	126	80	3	10	944
Mayo	219	20	20	15	0	0	274
Roscommon	72	2	0	0	0	0	74
CHO2	635	403	146	95	3	10	1,292
Clare	155	107	29	46	8	2	347
Limerick	218	161	145	20	23	25	592
North Tipperary East Limerick	171	162	106	49	29	0	517
CHO3	544	430	280	115	60	27	1,456
Kerry	138	5	0	0	0	0	143
North Cork	145	11	0	0	0	0	156
North Lee	166	108	20	0	0	0	294
South Lee	215	23	0	7	3	13	261
West Cork	70	6	0	0	0	0	76
CHO4	734	153	20	7	3	13	930
Carlow Kilkenny	137	137	74	0	0	0	348
South Tipperary	98	41	13	1	0	0	153
Waterford	77	89	193	1	0	0	360
Wexford	156	158	378	137	0	0	829
CHO5	468	425	658	139	0	0	1,690
Dublin South East	75	59	10	9	9	8	170
Dun Laoghaire	63	15	22	0	0	0	100
Wicklow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO6	138	74	32	9	9	8	270
Dublin South City	94	119	107	41	14	17	392
Dublin South West	187	117	152	44	78	373	951
Dublin West	76	141	255	241	133	11	857
Kildare West Wicklow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO7	357	377	514	326	225	401	2,200
Laos Offaly	394	279	213	0	0	0	886
Longford Westmeath	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Louth	192	72	0	0	0	0	264
Meath	85	56	76	23	0	0	240
CHO8	671	407	289	23	0	0	1,390
Dublin North	192	392	505	316	87	0	1,492
Dublin North Central	85	108	174	214	24	0	605
Dublin North West	135	219	325	259	127	39	1,104
CHO9	412	719	1,004	789	238	39	3,201
Total	4,136	3,131	3,343	1,596	569	498	13,273

Note : September data not returned for Donegal and Kildare/West Wicklow.

APPENDIX 2

Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years & 11 months old patients awaiting Initial Therapy - September 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	1	20	0	0	0	0	21
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO1	1	20	0	0	0	0	21
Galway	64	124	88	112	44	227	659
Mayo	58	49	39	0	0	0	146
Roscommon	76	103	40	0	0	0	219
CHO2	198	276	167	112	44	227	1,024
Clare	37	34	65	45	16	1	198
Limerick	79	34	62	34	11	25	245
North Tipperary East Limerick	20	8	6	2	0	0	36
CHO3	136	76	133	81	27	26	479
Kerry	96	90	20	0	0	0	206
North Cork	85	76	94	60	0	0	315
North Lee	148	120	271	161	51	38	789
South Lee	119	160	145	137	37	37	635
West Cork	35	32	26	12	2	0	107
CHO4	483	478	556	370	90	75	2,052
Carlow Kilkenny	27	34	85	168	147	163	624
South Tipperary	68	45	67	44	0	0	224
Waterford	15	34	62	133	172	103	519
Wexford	77	39	122	155	70	32	495
CHO5	187	152	336	500	389	298	1,862
Dublin South East	17	0	0	0	0	0	17
Dun Laoghaire	63	15	22	0	0	0	100
Wicklow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO6	80	15	22	0	0	0	117
Dublin South City	64	54	126	119	51	120	534
Dublin South West	39	55	85	116	45	20	360
Dublin West	5	64	100	230	112	131	642
Kildare West Wicklow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO7	108	173	311	465	208	271	1,536
Laois Offaly	29	36	88	170	13	0	336
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	29	36	88	170	13	0	336
Dublin North	78	94	249	298	84	0	803
Dublin North Central	82	41	64	75	1	0	263
Dublin North West	40	79	94	157	54	3	427
CHO9	200	214	407	530	139	3	1,493
Total	1,422	1,440	2,020	2,228	910	900	8,920

Note : September data not turned for Donegal and Kildare / West Wicklow

APPENDIX 3

Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years & 11 months old patients awaiting Further Therapy - September 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	244	495	30	0	0	0	769
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO1	244	495	30	0	0	0	769
Galway	432	760	378	99	10	4	1,683
Mayo	86	167	9	0	0	0	262
Roscommon	428	115	0	0	0	0	543
CHO2	946	1,042	387	99	10	4	2,488
Clare	172	143	220	150	81	48	814
Limerick	394	195	254	87	58	6	994
North Tipperary East Limerick	241	194	112	24	1	0	572
CHO3	807	532	586	261	140	54	2,380
Kerry	478	433	128	7	0	0	1,046
North Cork	62	93	133	65	17	0	370
North Lee	181	181	273	210	91	52	988
South Lee	73	161	149	110	57	15	565
West Cork	80	98	92	61	0	0	331
CHO4	874	966	775	453	165	67	3,300
Carlow Kilkenny	85	165	83	94	20	3	450
South Tipperary	0	221	340	0	0	0	561
Waterford	4	8	15	39	23	18	107
Wexford	59	186	289	151	53	17	755
CHO5	148	580	727	284	96	38	1,873
Dublin South East	12	6	11	1	0	0	30
Dun Laoghaire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wicklow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO6	12	6	11	1	0	0	30
Dublin South City	111	96	157	158	32	121	675
Dublin South West	35	136	180	208	88	44	691
Dublin West	20	114	248	348	163	86	979
Kildare West Wicklow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO7	166	346	585	714	283	251	2,345
Laois Offaly	121	183	44	42	39	9	438
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	121	183	44	42	39	9	438
Dublin North	205	316	603	577	6	0	1,707
Dublin North Central	47	105	153	126	17	0	448
Dublin North West	52	84	154	220	88	2	600
CHO9	304	505	910	923	111	2	2,755
Total	3,622	4,655	4,055	2,777	844	425	16,378

Note : September data not turned for Donegal and Kildare / West Wicklow

