



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Oifig an Cheannaire Oibríochtaí,  
Na Seirbhísí Míchumais/An Rannán Cúram Sóisialta,  
31-33 Sráid Chaitríona, Luimneach.

Office of the Head of Operations,  
Disability Services/Community Operations,  
31-33 Catherine Street, Limerick.

T: 00353 (0) 61 483369  
Suíomh Gréasáin/Website: <http://www.hse.ie>

21<sup>st</sup> October 2020

Deputy Michael Moynihan,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.  
e-mail: [michael.moynihan@oireachtas.ie](mailto:michael.moynihan@oireachtas.ie)

Dear Deputy Moynihan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary questions, which were submitted to this department for response.

**PQ: 29556/20**

*To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on the speech and language therapy assessment by each local health area as of 30 September 2020 or the latest date available waiting list; the numbers waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months, respectively; and the number waiting aged 0 to 17 years and those aged 18 and above, respectively by each category in tabular form.*

**PQ: 29557/20**

*To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on the speech and language therapy initial treatment waiting list by each local health area as of 30 September 2020 or the latest date available; the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and the number more than 12 months, respectively; and the number waiting aged 0 to 17 years and those aged 18 and above by each category in tabular form.*

**PQ: 29558/20**

*To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on the speech and language therapy further treatment waiting list for each local health area as of 30 September 2020 or the latest date available; the number waiting less than 4, 4 to 12 and more than 12 months, respectively; and the number waiting aged 0 to 17 years and those aged 18 years and above in each category in tabular form -*

**HSE Response**

Speech and Language Therapy is provided through Primary Care Teams in CHO Areas to children and young people requiring assessment, diagnosis and treatment for language and communication difficulties and feeding and swallowing difficulties.

Primary Care Operations compiles the data for Speech and language Therapy waiting lists and has provided the most recently available data to answer this query. The tables in the attached appendices give the following information:

Appendix 1 -Number of 0 to 17 years & 11 months awaiting SLT assessment.

Appendix 2- Number aged 18 and above awaiting SLT assessment.

Appendix 3 -Number of 0 to 17 years& 11 months awaiting SLT initial treatment.



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Appendix 4- Number aged 18 and above awaiting SLT initial treatment.  
Appendix 5 -Number of 0 to 17 years& 11 months awaiting SLT further treatment.  
Appendix 6- Number aged 18 and above awaiting SLT further treatment

Whilst accepting that significant levels of vital therapies were temporarily curtailed due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, processes are underway in order to plan for the reintroduction of non-Covid services.

The Governments Resilience & Recovery Framework (2020 – 2021), the HSE regards the provision of disability services as essential to maintaining a response to people with a disability. All disability services must follow public health guidance in this area, including the prevention and management of COVID-19 related infection. The HSE and its funded disability partners will continue to provide disability services in line with public health guidance and direction and having regard to the availability of staffing resources.

Reference is drawn to the following HSE weblink which provides updates and guidance for disability service providers, including 'service resumption planning guidance'.

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/covid19-updates/partner-resources/>

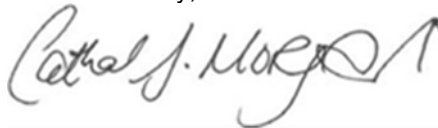
Attention is also drawn to the following important web links which provides up to date information resources in respect of COVID-19.

[www.hspc.ie](http://www.hspc.ie)

<https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/c36c85-covid-19-coronavirus/>

The HSE and Service Providers recognise the critical need and importance of disability supports for people and their families. The impact of COVID-19 on people's lives has and continues to be very significant. Our collective aim is to restore services in a safe way and in line with the very significant investment made by the State and funded agencies and we will continue to work with service users and their families/carers to ensure that we achieve this aim.

Yours sincerely,



**Dr. Cathal Morgan,**  
**Head of Operations - Disability Services,**  
**Community Operations**

**Appendix 1 -Number of 0 to 17 years & 11 months awaiting SLT assessment.**

Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years & 11 months old patients awaiting Initial Assessment - August 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	153	285	278	33	2	0	751
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CHO1</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>751</b>
Galway	309	373	75	55	28	10	850
Mayo	159	28	20	12	0	0	219
Roscommon	44	2	0	0	0	0	46
<b>CHO2</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1,115</b>
Clare	129	116	13	52	7	0	317
Limerick	192	213	106	19	24	25	579
North Tipperary East Limerick	150	200	119	60	16	0	545
<b>CHO3</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1,441</b>
Kerry	96	13	0	0	0	0	109
North Cork	100	9	0	0	0	0	109
North Lee	193	118	24	0	0	0	335
South Lee	190	14	0	7	3	13	227
West Cork	71	14	0	0	0	0	85
<b>CHO4</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>865</b>
Carlow Kilkenny	94	181	61	0	0	0	336
South Tipperary	75	69	33	2	0	0	179
Waterford	77	175	117	0	0	0	369
Wexford	87	216	364	138	0	0	805
<b>CHO5</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,689</b>
Dublin South East	55	33	12	10	8	0	118
Dun Laoghaire	88	28	20	41	27	2	206
Wicklow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CHO6</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>324</b>
Dublin South City	64	146	79	37	17	45	388
Dublin South West	158	216	61	57	78	373	943
Dublin West	52	200	227	227	116	6	828
Kildare West Wicklow	201	308	189	0	0	0	698
<b>CHO7</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>2,857</b>
Laois Offaly	300	675	1	0	0	0	976
Longford Westmeath	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Louth	157	116	0	0	0	0	273
Meath	27	91	126	61	0	0	305
<b>CHO8</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,554</b>
Dublin North	191	527	460	347	71	0	1,596
Dublin North Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dublin North West	114	274	343	308	156	32	1,227
<b>CHO9</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>803</b>	<b>655</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>2,823</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,526</b>	<b>4,640</b>	<b>2,728</b>	<b>1,466</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>13,419</b>

Appendix 2- Number aged 18 and above awaiting SLT assessment.

Speech and Language Therapy - Number of patients aged 18 years and older awaiting Initial Assessment - August 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	164	121	65	28	0	0	378
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CHO1</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>378</b>
Galway	164	22	9	0	0	4	199
Mayo	15	1	2	0	0	0	18
Roscommon	25	6	2	1	0	0	34
<b>CHO2</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>251</b>
Clare	9	0	0	0	0	0	9
Limerick	47	19	27	9	0	0	102
North Tipperary East Limerick	19	2	0	0	0	0	21
<b>CHO3</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>132</b>
Kerry	38	3	0	0	0	0	41
North Cork	28	0	0	0	0	0	28
North Lee	24	26	0	0	0	0	50
South Lee	40	5	1	0	0	0	46
West Cork	13	0	0	0	0	0	13
<b>CHO4</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>178</b>
Carlow Kilkenny	103	98	41	16	2	0	260
South Tipperary	43	8	1	0	0	0	52
Waterford	41	18	1	1	0	0	61
Wexford	87	52	10	16	5	0	170
<b>CHO5</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>543</b>
Dublin South East	30	0	0	0	0	0	30
Dun Laoghaire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wicklow	445	134	98	76	30	0	783
<b>CHO6</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>813</b>
Dublin South City	38	32	35	2	0	0	107
Dublin South West	67	61	41	0	0	0	169
Dublin West	11	3	1	7	0	5	27
Kildare West Wicklow	65	0	0	0	0	0	65
<b>CHO7</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>368</b>
Laois Offaly	73	64	34	33	8	13	225
Longford Westmeath	498	144	124	99	37	0	902
Louth	23	0	0	0	0	0	23
Meath	447	299	218	121	70	0	1,155
<b>CHO8</b>	<b>1,041</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2,305</b>
Dublin North	85	23	0	0	0	0	108
Dublin North Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dublin North West	26	10	0	0	0	0	36
<b>CHO9</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>144</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,668</b>	<b>1,151</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5,112</b>

**Appendix 3 -Number of 0 to 17 years& 11 months awaiting SLT initial treatment.**

<b>Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years &amp; 11 months old patients awaiting Initial Therapy - August 2020</b>							
<b>LHO</b>	<b>0 to 4 Mths</b>	<b>4 months &amp; 1 day - 8 months</b>	<b>8 months &amp; 1 day - 12 months</b>	<b>12 months &amp; 1 day - 18 months</b>	<b>18 months &amp; 1 day to 24 months</b>	<b>&gt;24 months</b>	<b>Total</b>
Cavan Monaghan	0	7	0	0	0	0	7
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CHO1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
Galway	106	120	90	115	50	227	708
Mayo	71	86	35	0	0	0	192
Roscommon	59	127	26	0	0	0	212
<b>CHO2</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>1,112</b>
Clare	20	66	99	45	10	0	240
Limerick	56	39	41	34	12	25	207
North Tipperary East Limerick	11	8	9	1	0	0	29
<b>CHO3</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>476</b>
Kerry	100	86	10	0	0	0	196
North Cork	99	69	98	43	16	0	325
North Lee	118	195	267	149	68	35	832
South Lee	115	177	138	135	37	37	639
West Cork	24	28	28	23	1	0	104
<b>CHO4</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>2,096</b>
Carlow Kilkenny	7	62	93	170	135	141	608
South Tipperary	48	71	55	51	3	0	228
Waterford	5	50	64	163	151	102	535
Wexford	54	66	130	139	97	23	509
<b>CHO5</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>1,880</b>
Dublin South East	14	18	0	0	0	0	32
Dun Laoghaire	20	25	21	0	0	0	66
Wicklow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CHO6</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>98</b>
Dublin South City	43	91	111	111	58	100	514
Dublin South West	21	83	83	113	34	20	354
Dublin West	144	77	153	225	162	128	889
Kildare West Wicklow	45	58	2	0	0	0	105
<b>CHO7</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>1,862</b>
Laois Offaly	6	55	133	166	12	0	372
Longford Westmeath	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Louth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meath	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>CHO8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>373</b>
Dublin North	18	190	229	320	3	0	760
Dublin North Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dublin North West	51	83	126	193	43	0	496
<b>CHO9</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,256</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,255</b>	<b>1,938</b>	<b>2,041</b>	<b>2,196</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>9,160</b>

Appendix 4- Number aged 18 and above awaiting SLT initial treatment.

Speech and Language Therapy - Number of patients aged 18 years and older awaiting Initial Therapy - August 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	3	4	0	0	0	0	7
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO1	3	4	0	0	0	0	7
Galway	7	0	0	0	0	0	7
Mayo	38	0	0	0	0	0	38
Roscommon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO2	45	0	0	0	0	0	45
Clare	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Limerick	21	24	25	10	9	0	89
North Tipperary East Limerick	0	5	1	0	0	0	6
CHO3	21	29	26	10	9	0	95
Kerry	19	2	0	0	0	0	21
North Cork	7	0	0	0	0	0	7
North Lee	15	6	0	0	0	0	21
South Lee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Cork	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
CHO4	43	8	0	0	0	0	51
Carlow Kilkenny	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Tipperary	0	4	1	0	0	0	5
Waterford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wexford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO5	0	4	1	0	0	0	5
Dublin South East	14	0	0	0	0	0	14
Dun Laoghaire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wicklow	211	129	98	78	30	0	546
CHO6	225	129	98	78	30	0	560
Dublin South City	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Dublin South West	2	7	2	2	9	0	22
Dublin West	37	42	10	4	0	0	93
Kildare West Wicklow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO7	39	51	12	6	9	0	117
Laois Offaly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longford Westmeath	178	108	38	31	0	0	355
Louth	18	0	0	0	0	0	18
Meath	62	1	0	0	0	0	63
CHO8	258	109	38	31	0	0	436
Dublin North	5	6	0	0	0	0	11
Dublin North Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dublin North West	10	5	0	0	0	0	15
CHO9	15	11	0	0	0	0	26
Total	649	345	175	125	48	0	1,342

# Appendix 5- Number of 0 to 17 years& 11 months awaiting SLT further treatment

## Speech and Language Therapy - Number of 0-17 years & 11 months old patients awaiting Further Therapy - August 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	192	599	4	0	0	0	795
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO1	192	599	4	0	0	0	795
Galway	292	710	298	74	10	5	1,389
Mayo	249	133	6	0	0	0	388
Roscommon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO2	541	843	304	74	10	5	1,777
Clare	114	157	92	153	122	0	638
Limerick	381	228	168	85	43	6	911
North Tipperary East Limerick	281	146	64	14	0	0	505
CHO3	776	531	324	252	165	6	2,054
Kerry	452	392	88	7	0	0	939
North Cork	76	92	127	52	13	0	360
North Lee	135	287	259	204	85	39	1,009
South Lee	63	178	129	106	50	15	541
West Cork	98	135	92	71	3	0	399
CHO4	824	1,084	695	440	151	54	3,248
Carlow Kilkenny	58	227	44	113	7	1	450
South Tipperary	0	229	340	0	0	0	569
Waterford	5	15	12	41	19	16	108
Wexford	77	181	237	106	23	17	641
CHO5	140	652	633	260	49	34	1,768
Dublin South East	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dun Laoghaire	47	32	7	0	0	0	86
Wicklow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHO6	47	32	7	0	0	0	86
Dublin South City	59	139	165	131	46	107	647
Dublin South West	33	166	195	192	78	44	708
Dublin West	14	137	261	348	130	130	1,020
Kildare West Wicklow	230	565	98	5	0	0	898
CHO7	336	1,007	719	676	254	281	3,273
Laois Offaly	202	174	51	41	40	0	508
Longford Westmeath	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Louth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meath	1	7	0	0	0	0	8
CHO8	203	181	51	41	40	0	516
Dublin North	151	398	636	479	3	0	1,667
Dublin North Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dublin North West	147	100	136	225	77	0	685
CHO9	298	498	772	704	80	0	2,352
Total	3,357	5,427	3,509	2,447	749	380	15,869



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# Appendix 6- Number aged 18 and above awaiting SLT further treatment

Speech and Language Therapy - Number of patients aged 18 years and older awaiting Further Therapy - August 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	99	43	5	0	0	0	147
Donegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sligo Leitrim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CHO1</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>147</b>
Galway	195	44	9	2	4	138	392
Mayo	6	2	0	2	0	0	10
Roscommon	98	0	0	0	0	0	98
<b>CHO2</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>500</b>
Clare	44	43	0	0	0	0	87
Limerick	61	0	0	0	0	0	61
North Tipperary East Limerick	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CHO3</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>148</b>
Kerry	41	8	0	0	0	0	49
North Cork	24	8	5	3	0	0	40
North Lee	14	7	12	14	12	2	61
South Lee	45	42	11	5	0	0	103
West Cork	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CHO4</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>253</b>
Carlow Kilkenny	50	24	0	30	0	0	104
South Tipperary	0	2	6	0	0	0	8
Waterford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wexford	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
<b>CHO5</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>118</b>
Dublin South East	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dun Laoghaire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wicklow	289	199	78	72	71	0	709
<b>CHO6</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>709</b>
Dublin South City	26	8	0	0	0	0	34
Dublin South West	17	17	9	9	4	1	57
Dublin West	106	29	5	17	13	56	226
Kildare West Wicklow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CHO7</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>317</b>
Laois Offaly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longford Westmeath	381	275	141	128	5	0	930
Louth	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meath	6	0	0	0	0	0	6
<b>CHO8</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>936</b>
Dublin North	122	43	0	0	0	0	165
Dublin North Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dublin North West	2	27	1	0	0	0	30
<b>CHO9</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>195</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,627</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>3,323</b>