



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Príomhoifigeach, Eagraíocht Cúram
Sláinte Pobail, Lár Tíre, An Lú, An Mhí
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte,
Oifig Cheantair, Bóthar Ardáin, An
Tulach Mhór, Co. Uíbh Fhailí.

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17th November, 2020

Mr. Brian Stanley T.D.,
Dáil Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Re: Parliamentary Question – 30970/20

To ask the Minister for Health when services such as speech and language therapy, occupational therapy and physiotherapy will be restored in full at a centre (details supplied) to clear the waiting list for persons that have been referred and need to avail of the services. -Brian Stanley

(Details) - Spraioi Centre, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

Dear Deputy Stanley,

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 outline response as follows.

As you will be aware the HSE was as a result of Covid 19 required to stand up a completely new service i.e. community swabbing / testing. The CHO is aware of the impact of this on front-line services and has put in place a prioritised service plan which ensures that Priority 1 clients are receiving services required. The CHO has also during this time developed tele-health within the various care groups to help sustain the capability of the services to support clients during the current crisis. I also wish to clarify working on swabbing / testing does not preclude staff from providing a service to children with a disability. The staff do however seek consent of parents to proceed where a face to face contact appointment is required.

The resumption of services plan will be based on ensuring safe disability services for service users, families and the team. I can confirm that staff will be returning from swabbing / testing duties as “swabbers” are appointed and demand for same stabilises. This is reviewed at the end of each month.

I trust the above is in order and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah McBride
Chief Officer CHO Area 8