



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Office of the Head of Primary Care
South East Community Healthcare
HSE Offices, Lacken
Dublin Road
Kilkenny

Telephone +353 56 7784100

5th May 2021

Mr. Johnny Mythen TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 21704/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons waiting for a wheelchair in CHO5, by area; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Mythen,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which was submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

I have reviewed the matter and the following outlines the current position.

In South East Community Healthcare (formerly CHO 5), we do not routinely collect data on the number of adults and children awaiting the delivery of wheelchairs.

Assessment of mobility needs including assessment for mobility wheelchairs are primarily carried out by Occupational Therapy staff. Referrals to the Occupational Therapy Service are prioritised based on the service prioritisation system using categories such as urgent, semi-urgent and routine. Referrals deemed as Priority 1 are prioritised and receive an appointment as soon as possible whilst for Priority 2 referrals are seen in the order in which they are received.

The waiting times for assessment vary across the South East and are impacted by a number of factors including the number of patients waiting to be assessed at any point in time.

It is difficult to be more specific as the data is not routinely collected by specific items of equipment.

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries, specifically in relation to a specific client, please forward details directly to the Head of Service-Primary Care, where this will be followed-up for you.

Yours sincerely,

Jeanne Hendrick
A/Head of Service-Primary Care
South East Community Healthcare