

6th May 2021

Ms. Verona Murphy TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 22526/21

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons under 18 years of age waiting for speech and language therapy in County Wexford; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Murphy,

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

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

Wexford Area (as of the 30/03/21)	No. of persons under 18 years of age waiting initial assessment	No. of persons under 18 years of age waiting initial therapy	No. of persons under 18 years of age waiting further therapy
	849	622	978

The current staffing situation in the SLT Department in the Wexford sector is improving and recruitment is ongoing to fill outstanding vacancies which should help to reduce the waiting lists.

Covid-19 has required the SLT Department to develop new ways of working in order to deliver SLT services in a safe effective manner while complying with HSE Covid-19 protocols to ensure the safety of the children, their families and staff. It is hoped that as Covid-19 restrictions are relaxed in the coming months, SLT services can return to normal capacity with a reduction in waiting lists

I trust this information is of assistance to you. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



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