



Mr. Paul McAuliffe TD
 Dáil Éireann
 Kildare Street
 Dublin 2

03rd August 2021

PQ 25032/21 – To ask the Minister for Health the wait time in Primary Health care for a Speech & Language therapist in CHO9 and if he will make a statement on the matter – Paul McAuliffe

Dear Deputy McAuliffe,

In the first instance I would like to apologise for the delay in responding due to the cyber-attack.

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 the following outlines the position.

The following table outlines the waiting time for Speech and Language Therapy in Primary Care Community Healthcare Organisation Dublin North City and County (CHO DNCC),

Speech and Language Therapy Waiting time in CHO DNCC	Awaiting Initial Assessment	Awaiting Therapy	Awaiting Further Therapy
Dublin North Central	97 weeks	108 weeks	108 weeks
Dublin North West	105 weeks	112 weeks	111 weeks
Dublin North	64 weeks	84 weeks	84 weeks

For all areas, Dublin North, Dublin North West and Dublin North Central, at point of referral all clients are provided with the contact details for the Speech and Language Therapist for their area who they can contact for advice while awaiting their assessment.

In Dublin North Central, there are phone-in advice clinics on the last Friday of the month where clients will be offered advice and details of where they can access information.

In Dublin North West, there is a paediatric Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) page on the HSE website with links to a number of resources and advice leaflets. Parents of children awaiting assessment in the 0-7 age bracket are also invited to a virtual pre-assessment talk by the Speech and Language Therapist or provided with links to a SLT YouTube channel which contains various information videos to support parents in developing their child’s communication development.

A pre-assessment talk for children over eight years of age is currently in development.

Suitable children under three years of age and children up to the age of eighteen who present with stammering are being prioritised by fast tracking them directly onto the therapy waiting list following triage call with parents/guardians.

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

Yours sincerely,



Michelle Forde
General Manager