



Ceannasaí Seirbhíse, Seirbhísí Cúram Príomhúil
An Cabhán, Muineachán, Sligeach, Liatroim & Dún na nGall

Head of Service, Primary Care
Cavan, Monaghan, Sligo, Leitrim & Donegal

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2nd November 2021

Deputy Matt Carthy TD
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Re: PQ 47587/21 “To ask the Minister for Health his plans to address the backlog in audiology appointments in counties Cavan and Monaghan; when he expects this backlog to be cleared; and if he will make a statement on the matter”.

Dear Deputy Carthy,

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 Chief Officer, CHO 1 for response. I have examined the matter, and the following outlines the position.

The Community Audiology Service for Cavan and Monaghan have resumed services since the Covid 19 pandemic enforced a temporary cessation of routine services. However, emergency services were provided throughout all stages of the pandemic. Since July of 2020 adult and paediatric clients have been offered a service on a mixture of face-to-face and remote appointments. The audiology service is back to working at full capacity with an amount of time allocated to Infection Prevention Control measures in between each appointment.

All Audiologists are working to maximum capacity and are doing their best to provide a timely service to clients on the waiting list. The Community Audiology Service is in the process of engaging an additional staff grade Audiologist on a two year temporary contract to help reduce waiting times in Louth, Cavan and Monaghan. This post is currently with HSE HR and it is hoped to be able to offer it to suitable candidates before year end.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dermot".

Dermot Monaghan,
Ceannasaí Seirbhíse, Seirbhísí Cúram Príomhúil
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