



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

7<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Mr. Martin Browne TD  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Dublin 2

**PQ 48378/21**

To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons awaiting a speech and language appointment in CHOS; the number who have been waiting less than 3, 3 to 6, 6 to 12 and more than 12 months, in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Browne,

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.*

The number of persons awaiting a speech and language appointment in Carlow/Kilkenny	No. waiting *0 – 4 mths	No. waiting *4–8 mths	No. waiting *8–12 mths	No. waiting 12 months +
Waiting for initial assessment – adults	183	43	17	30
Waiting for initial assessment – children	222	154	94	12
Waiting for initial therapy – adults	0	0	0	0
Waiting for initial therapy – children	93	78	52	306
Waiting for further therapy – adults	0	0	22	0
Waiting for further therapy - children	18	42	418	138

<b>The number of persons awaiting a speech and language appointment in South Tipperary</b>	<b>No. waiting *0 – 4 mths</b>	<b>No. waiting *4–8 mths</b>	<b>No. waiting *8–12 mths</b>	<b>No. waiting 12 months +</b>
<b>Waiting for initial assessment – adults</b>	48	2	0	0
<b>Waiting for initial assessment – children</b>	210	40	5	0
<b>Waiting for initial therapy – adults</b>	2	0	0	0
<b>Waiting for initial therapy – children</b>	106	66	48	11
<b>Waiting for further therapy – adults</b>	0	4	5	0
<b>Waiting for further therapy - children</b>	0	216	324	0

\*Please note that statistics collated for Carlow/Kilkenny and South Tipperary differ in the time periods they are collected in.

<b>The number of persons awaiting a speech and language appointment in Waterford</b>	<b>No. waiting less than 3 months</b>	<b>No. waiting 3-6 months</b>	<b>No. waiting 6-12 months</b>	<b>No. waiting 12 months +</b>
<b>Waiting for initial assessment – adults</b>	29	5	3	4
<b>Waiting for initial assessment – children</b>	38	52	103	209
<b>Waiting for initial therapy – adults</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Waiting for initial therapy – children</b>	35	47	75	275
<b>Waiting for further therapy – adults</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Waiting for further therapy - children</b>	43	5	7	20

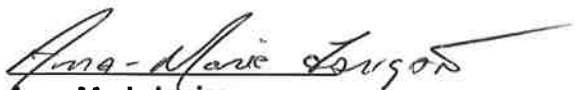
The number of persons awaiting a speech and language appointment in Wexford	No. waiting less than 3 months	No. waiting 3-6 months	No. waiting 6-12 months	No. waiting 12 months +
Waiting for initial assessment – adults	43	26	45	44
Waiting for initial assessment – children	182	233	355	261
Waiting for initial therapy – adults	0	0	0	4
Waiting for initial therapy – children	82	67	155	175
Waiting for further therapy adults	0	0	5	15
Waiting for further therapy – children	89	124	297	383

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 patients 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.

Please be assured that the HSE SLT service monitors the waiting list on an ongoing basis in the overall context of available resources and prioritisation criteria.

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

Yours sincerely,



**Anna Marie Lanigan**  
**Head of Service-Primary Care**  
**South East Community Healthcare**