



**Cúram Sláinte  
Phobail, Iarthar**  
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,  
Maighéo agus Ros Comáin

**Community  
Healthcare West**  
serving Galway, Mayo  
and Roscommon

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10<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Mr. Michael Ring, T.D.  
Constituency Office  
Quay Street  
Westport  
Co. Mayo  
F82 FT96

**PQ 20502/22 Speech and Language Therapy Service for school age children in the Achill area of County Mayo as primary school age children have not had access to an SLT service for more than a year. To ask the Minister for Health when a speech and language therapy service for school age children will be provided in an area (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Ring,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

There is a vacancy in The Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) department in the Achill region. Funding has been approved for backfilling the vacancy post and it is hoped that it will be filled from a national SLT recruitment panel.

In the meantime, the service to Achill is being covered on a priority basis. The new referrals are being screened for initial consultation in line with the rest of the county, and the long waiters are being offered a block of intervention.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

*M. Michelle Gan*

**Mary Warde**  
Head of Primary Care  
Community Healthcare West