

Priscilla Lynch Head of Service, Primary Care, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare, Coolnagarrane, Skibbereen, Co. Cork Email: <u>Priscilla.Lynch@hse.ie</u>

5th May, 2022.

Mr. Thomas Gould, T.D., Dáil Éireann, Dublin 2

PQ ref 20957/22

"To ask the Minister for Health the average waiting time for a marriage notification appointment in Cork city."

PQ ref: 20958/22

"To ask the Minister for Health the actions he plans to take to deal with the increased demand for marriage notification in Cork city."

PQ ref 20959/22

"To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons currently awaiting an appointment for marriage notification in Cork city."

Dear Deputy Gould,

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

There are no persons waiting for an appointment in Cork at present as once a couple contacts the Civil Registration Office for an appointment they will be provided with one. However, the average waiting time for a notice of marriage appointment in Cork City today is 14 weeks. Additional staff are been recruited to deal with this waiting time. The recruitment process for these additional staff is well underway and, once they have been appointed and their training has been completed, the Civil Registration Office will endeavour to tackle the waiting time in the area and continue to provide a quality service to the public in Cork.

Couples wishing to get married are advised to contact the Civil Registration Office well in advance of their minimum 3 months' notice period of their intention to marry. They are advised to give as much notice as possible in order to facilitate them with the appointment date and venue of their choice. Where a couple contact the Civil Registration Office at the last minute, and no appointment is available in their preferred office, they will be advised to contact an alternative office where an appointment is available that can facilitate their intended date of marriage.

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Micloel Marsel

Michael Moriarty Acting Head of Service - Primary Care, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare

