



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Ceannasaí Náisiúnta Oibríochtaí Meabhairshláinte,  
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Deputy Jackie Cahill.  
Dail Eireann,  
Dublin 2.

09th March 2022

**PQ Number: 6628/22**

**PQ Question: To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons in County Tipperary that are on mental health waiting lists for counselling services; the average wait time; and if he will make a statement on the matter - Jackie Cahill**

Dear Deputy Cahill,

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 HSE National Counselling Service, established in 2000, provides a range of counselling services including the CAPA service ( Counselling and Psychotherapy for Adults who experienced Abuse in Childhood) and the CIPC service (Counselling in Primary Care). These services are provided across each HSE Community Health Area. For administrative purposes Tipperary is divided into two areas North Tipperary which is part of CHO 3 and South Tipperary which is part of CHO 5.

Waiting times for counselling with the National Counselling Service in North and South Tipperary are outlined below.

Area	No. of clients waiting for assessment	Waiting Time	No. of clients who have been assessed and are on waiting list for counselling	Waiting Time	No. of clients who are waiting by choice [i.e. offered counselling but have declined offer and prefer to wait for specific location /counsellor/time etc.]	Waiting Time
North Tipperary (CHO 3)	5	9 Mths	15	19 Mths	9	9 Mths
South Tipperary (CHO 5)	31	6 months	177	13 Mths	1	25 Mths



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The impact of the Pandemic continues to effect waiting times in North Tipperary as there are difficulties accessing suitable accommodation for clients who request in person counselling and who are unable to travel to alternative locations.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Ryan".

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**Jim Ryan**  
**Assistant National Director - Head of Operations**  
**National Mental Health Services**