



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Office of the Head of Primary Care
South East Community Healthcare
HSE Offices, Lacken
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28th February 2022

Mr. Johnny Mythen TD
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

PQ 9934/22

To ask the Minister for Health the number of children on the dental appointment waiting list in County Wexford; the average waiting time for appointments; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Mythen

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

I have reviewed the matter and the following outlines the current position.

Children are targeted for dental examination in 2nd and 6th classes in primary school. There are long waiting lists for this service in the Wexford area and, at present, there are 20,161 children awaiting dental appointments with the HSE Dental Service in Wexford. Children are currently being commenced on their treatment programme following a wait time of approximately 42 months. Emergency appointments are provided immediately where this need arises.

With the easing of Covid-19 restrictions, dental examinations for school-going children will be prioritised (within the resources available) for the HSE in all areas across South East Community Healthcare.

Please be assured that the HSE dental 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
Assistant National Director
South East Community Healthcare