

Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí, Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens, Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8. D08 W2A8.

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24th January 2022

Deputy Rose Conway-Walsh, Dáil Éireann, Leinster House, **Kildare Street**, Dublin 2.

PQ 63463/21 - To ask the Minister for Health the procedure if a speech and language therapist leaves the role with the HSE as regards the children being treated by the therapist; if the children being treated by that therapist go back to the bottom of the waiting list; and if he will make a statement on the matter. - Rose Conway-Walsh

Dear Deputy Conway-Walsh,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 63463/21) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

We have contacted a small number of CHO's to establish their position and the same practice applies across those areas. If a Speech and Language Therapist leaves their role with the HSE, the children in the speech and language therapist's caseload do not go to the bottom of the waiting list. The CHO will continue to offer support on a priority basis using cross cover from other areas.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

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Seán McArt **General Manager Primary Care** National Community Operations