



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

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15th June 2022

Deputy David Cullinane,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

PQ 30125/22 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of children currently waiting for speech and language therapy in tabular form; the length of wait in 3 month timebands; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

- David Cullinane

Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (PQ 30125/22) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The spread of Covid-19 has posed significant challenges for many service areas, including all Therapy Services. In light of these unprecedented challenges together with the Government's guidance on social distancing and on 'Cocooning' for those aged over 70, the HSE has had to reassess its operation of Community Therapy Services nationally, to ensure that the assessed needs of those clients with the highest priority are met.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality Speech and Language Therapy services to all eligible service users. In 2021, there were 205,214 patients seen by HSE community Speech and Language Therapy services.

Please find the attach appendices, which contain, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists for child Speech and Language Therapy as of April 2022, which is the latest data available at this time. Please note that where an individual CHO was unable to return the waiting list data for the month in question, that it is noted at the bottom of the waiting list table.

Appendix 1 – Speech and Language Therapy – No of Patients awaiting Initial Assessment – April 2022

Appendix 2 – Speech and Language Therapy – No of Patients awaiting Initial Therapy – April 2022

Appendix 3 – Speech and Language Therapy – No of Patients awaiting Further Therapy – April 2022

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Seán McArt

General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations