



Ceann Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara &
Iarthar Chill Mhantáin

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás,
Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC

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12 April 2022

Eoin Ó Broin TD
Dáil Eireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 14119/22

“To ask the Minister for Health the number of HSE services providing occupational therapy and speech and language therapy to children in an area (Dublin Mid West); the number of children on the waiting list for these therapies in the area; and the action his Department is taking to increase service provision in this area.”

- Eoin Ó Broin TD

Dear Deputy Ó Broin,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question above, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Services providing Occupational Therapy (OT) and Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) to children within our Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare area are Primary Care and Disability Services.

These services are provided in an integrated manner from Disability and Primary Care services. Children’s Disability Services are structured based on an interdisciplinary model and do not hold individual discipline waiting lists. However, Primary Care services offer a uni disciplinary model and the waiting list for children at the end of February 2022, for Dublin West and Dublin South West is as follows

| Area | OT | SLT |
|-------------------|-----|-----|
| Dublin West | 402 | 912 |
| Dublin South West | 492 | 525 |

The prevailing recruitment situation across clinical disciplines is highly challenging but ongoing and we aim to recruit a total of 11 Senior SLT posts, 14 Senior OT posts and 14 Assistant OT posts for the Enhanced Community Care (ECC) Network model. When in place, it is anticipated that these new resources will have a significant effect on wait times, providing access to service users in a timely manner, local to home.

Yours sincerely,

Gillian Farrelly,

Interim Head of Service, Primary Care.
Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare

