



**Ceann Seirbhísí Daoine Scothaosta**

Limistéar Cúram Sláinte Pobail an  
Oirdheiscirt | Leacain |  
Bóthar Bhaile Átha Cliath | Cill Chainnigh |  
R95 NV08

**Head of Service Older Persons** Tel: 056 7784319

South East Community Healthcare  
Area | Lacken |  
Dublin Road | Kilkenny |  
R95 NV08

20<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Mr. Jackie Cahill, T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 23240/22**

**To ask the Minister for Health when a speech and language therapist will be appointed to St. Patrick's Hospital, Cashel, County Tipperary; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**PQ 23241/22**

**To ask the Minister for Health the length of time that St. Patrick's Hospital, Cashel, County Tipperary has been operating without a full-time speech and language therapist; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**PQ23242/22**

**To ask the Minister for Health his views on whether it is acceptable that persons who are recovering from a stroke in St. Patrick's Hospital, Cashel, County Tipperary are not being provided with access to a speech and language therapist given that the post has not been filled by the HSE; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Cahill,

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

*I have reviewed the matter and the following composite response outlines the current position.*

I can confirm a resource of 0.4 WTE Speech and Language Therapist, (SLT) has historically been provided support to Cashel Residential and Rehabilitation services.

Unfortunately the Speech and Language Therapist (SLT) post is currently vacant following a resignation in March 2022. I can confirm that in line with recruitment policy, this post is currently in the process of being recruited and is being offered out through the panel. Please be assured that this SLT service is important for South East Community Healthcare.

Whilst gaps in service provision are regretful, the HSE SECH endeavours to continue the provision of a service. In this regard, options including the re-allocation of current resources within Speech and Language Services have been considered in addition to engagement with outside agencies to provide SLT sessions.



I trust the above is in order and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

---

**Helen McDaid**  
**Head of Service**  
**South East Community Healthcare**