



**Cúram Sláinte  
Phobail, Iarthar**  
ag freastal ar Ghaillimh,  
Maigheo agus Ros Comáin

**Community  
Healthcare West**  
serving Galway, Mayo  
and Roscommon

**Ceannasaí na Seirbhísí Bunchúraim**

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24<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Mr Michael Ring, TD  
Constituency Office  
Quay Street  
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County Mayo  
F82 FT96

**PQ 56365/22**

**SLT services for young children in the Achill area of County Mayo that suffer from speech delays. SLT therapist left the position in August 2021 and the position was never filled. To ask the Minister for Health when a speech and language therapy position (details supplied) which has been vacant since August 2021 will be filled in view of the detrimental effect it is having on children living in that area who cannot access regular speech and language therapy; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

Dear Deputy Ring,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) service in Achill will resume before the end of the year 2022. The post was vacant due to redeployment during Covid-19, however service was still provided in Achill for initial assessments and long waiters through the SLT Waiting List Initiative service.

I trust this information is of assistance to you, but should you have any further queries please contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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**Mary Warde**  
Head of Primary Care Services  
Galway, Mayo & Roscommon