



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

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

**Ceannasaí na Seirbhísí Bunchúraim**

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21<sup>st</sup> October 2022

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

**PQ 50195/22**

**Status of paediatric speech therapy and audiology services in the Belmullet area of County Mayo. To ask the Minister for Health the status of the provision of services in an area (details supplied); if alternative arrangements are being made to provide the services in that locality; 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.

Until recently, there were two part time staff grade Speech and Language Therapists sharing responsibility for provision of services to the Belmullet area. They have now been replaced by a full time Senior Speech and Language Therapist who is providing SLT services in this area. There is currently a waiting list for initial and further SLT in the Belmullet area. The Speech and Language service is provided in Belmullet hospital.

In regards to Audiology Services in Belmullet, there are no Audiology Services at present or planned in the near future for the Belmullet area, with the exception of home visits for complex adult clients as needed and organized by the Audiologist. We do understand the difficulties and challenges of travelling long distances for appointments with young children and hence, hope to re-start Paediatric Audiology Services at Ballina Health Centre in the next few months pending up-skilling and backfilling of posts.

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

Yours sincerely,

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