

Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí, Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

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1st, February 2023

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

PQ 2942/23 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on community healthcare waiting lists, for each care service, for December 2020, in tabular form; the breakdown by length of wait and by age; the numbers waiting for initial assessment, initial therapy, intervention and follow up therapy and intervention for each specialty; 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 (2942/23) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

It is worth noting that COVID-19 has posed significant challenges for many service areas. In light of these unprecedented challenges, together with the Government's guidance on social distancing, this has unfortunately had unavoidable negative impacts on waiting lists. The HSE continues to work hard to address these issues and find solutions to the difficulties resulting from the ongoing Covid-19 crisis.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality care services to all eligible service users. In 2021, there were 1.2 million patients seen by HSE community services.

Please find the attached appendix, which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists in each CHO area, as of December 2020, which is the latest data available at this time.

Appendix 1 – CHO Waitlist as at December 2020

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

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Seán McArt **General Manager Primary Care** National Community Operations