



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,  
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19<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Deputy Tully,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Leinster House,  
Kildare Street,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ 35199/23 - To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of people awaiting a speech and language appointment here; the number who have been waiting less than three months; the number that have been waiting 3- 6 months; the number that have been waiting 6-12 months; the number that have been waiting more than 12 months; broken down in tabular form; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**-Pauline Tully**

Dear Deputy Tully,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (35199/23) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality services to all eligible service users. In 2022, there were 192,514 patients seen by HSE Speech and Language Therapy in Primary Care. It is worth noting that COVID-19 has posed significant challenges for many service areas in 2020, 2021 and 2022. The resulting ongoing impact is seen in the increased number of referrals and subsequent waiting lists for Primary Care Services.

Please find the attached appendix, which contains, in tabular form, details of the Speech & Language Therapy waiting list in each CHO area, as at the end of May 2023 which is the latest data available at this time.

Appendix 1 – Speech & Language Therapy Waitlist as at the end of May 2023

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

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