



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,  
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

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16<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

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

**PQ 12408/23 – To ask the Minister for Health the number of patients on primary care and community healthcare waiting lists, for each care service, for January and February 2019-2023, inclusive, 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/intervention for each specialty; and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**-David Cullinane**

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Dear Deputy Cullinane,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (12408/23) which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

The impact of Covid 19 on the delivery services from 2020 to 2022 has created challenges for the delivery of services across the HSE. The resulting ongoing impact is seen in the increased number of referrals and subsequent waiting lists for Primary Care services. Over the two year period, ((2021 - 2022), the total number of patients waiting more than 52 weeks (all ages) has reduced by 15%. Over the same period, the total number of patients aged under 18 waiting more than 52 weeks has reduced by 36%. The greatest reductions in percentage terms are in OT, SLT, Physio and Audiology. The HSE is committed to delivering efficient high quality care services to all eligible service users. In 2022, there were 1.3 million patients seen by HSE services.

Please find the attached appendices, which contains, in tabular form, details of the waiting lists in each CHO area as at the end of January and February 2019 to 2023.

- Appendix 1 – CHO Waitlist as at January 2019 & February 2019
- Appendix 2 – CHO Waitlist as at January 2020 & February 2020
- Appendix 3 – CHO Waitlist as at January 2021 & February 2021
- Appendix 4 – CHO Waitlist as at January 2022, February 2022 & January 2023

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

*Maeve Raeside*

**Maeve Raeside**

General Manager Primary Care  
National Community Operations

