



Eagraíocht Cúram
Sláinte Pobail
Tuaisceart Chathair &
Tuaisceart Chontae
Baile Átha Cliath

Community Healthcare
Organisation
Dublin North City &
County

Ceannasaí Seirbhíse Cúram Príomhúil,
Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail
Tuaisceart Chathair & Tuaisceart Chontae
Bhaile Átha Cliath,
Saoráid Cúram Sláinte Bhaile Munna,
Bhaile Munna, Baile Átha Cliath 9, DO9 C8P5.

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Head of Service Primary Care,
HSE Community Healthcare Organisation
Dublin North City & County,
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Ballymun, Dublin 9, DO9 C8P5.

Mr Alan Farrell TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

6th April 2023

PQ14400/23 – *“To ask the Minister for Health the number of children currently waiting for their initial dentistry appointment in the Dublin Fingal constituency”* – **Alan Farrell TD**

Dear Deputy Farrell,

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

There are 6,920 children waiting for their Primary Care Dentistry appointment in the Fingal Constituency. The number of children on the waiting list is as a result of historical staff shortages and difficulty recruiting combined with population increases in the area. Funding has been made available nationally for a Dental Service waiting list initiative to help reduce the waiting time for the dental service. The waiting list initiative will provide for extended hours within the service. It is expected to be rolled out shortly.

When resources allow, dental services within the HSE offer children in 2nd 4th and 6th classes targeted examinations. When resources are limited, 6th class screenings are prioritised. In Dublin North West covering the Blanchardstown Blakestown area, the Service is working on current year 6th class. When this is complete, it is anticipated they will begin to see children from the current year 2nd classes. In Dublin North, the Service is working on last year's 6th classes and expects to move onto the current year 6th class when this is complete.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Tom O'Brien
Head of Service Primary Care