



Children's Health Ireland

Sláinte Leanaí Éireann (SLÉ), Herberton, Siúlán San Séamas, Rialto, D08 HP97, Éire
Children's Health Ireland (CHI), Herberton, St James's Walk, Rialto, D08 HP97 Ireland

Our Ref: PQ 20902/23, PQ 20904/23 & PQ 20905/23

18th May 2023

Deputy David Cullinane
Dáil Éireann
Dublin 2

Dear Deputy Cullinane

I refer to your parliamentary questions listed below which have been forwarded to me for attention.

PQ 20902/23 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children with scoliosis and the number of children with spina bifida on waiting lists at the end of quarter 1 for each year 2019-2023, inclusive, by specialty, including the number of suspended cases, in tabular form; and the number waiting 0-6, 6-12, 12-18 and 18+ months.

PQ 20904/23 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of spinal fusion and other paediatric orthopaedic procedures carried out by Children's Health Ireland in each year 2017-2023 by month at each location in tabular form; the number which have been outsourced; and the location at which they were conducted.

PQ 20905/23 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children removed from paediatric orthopaedic waiting lists in November and December 2022 and January and February 2023, by reason for removal; and the number removed without having a procedure and the reason why.

As advised in Children's Health Ireland's (CHI) responses dated 13th of January and 31st March, given the significant amount of time and effort of numerous staff members, who need to prioritise direct service management, to collate the requested data, we are unable to accommodate this request. It is of importance to note that preparation of the responses is an added pressure to staff who are already working in extremely busy roles on a daily basis.

The scoliosis waiting lists are available as required and the advocacy groups also have additional information.

In our letter dated 31st March we offered to set up a meeting to discuss further requests in order to understand the information requirements given the time and effort required to prepare responses. This offer still remains. Please contact me at the email address below if you wish to set up a meeting to discuss this further.

Our **Mission** is to: Promote and provide child-centred, research-led and learning informed healthcare, to the highest standards of safety and excellence. We will do this in partnership with each other, with children, young people and their families through a network of children's services in Ireland.
CRA Registered Charity Number (RCN): 20202295 Revenue Charitable Status CHY: 22235
Board Members: Prof James Browne (Chairman), Mr Con Cronin, Ms Mary Cryan, Mr Liam Dowdall, Prof Martin Elliott, Ms Catherine Guy, Dr Anne Kilgallen, Dr Gavin Lavery, Ms Brigid McManus, Ms Eleanor O'Neill, Mr Turlough O'Sullivan, Mr Sean Sheehan



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Yours sincerely

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