



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens,
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29th May 2023

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

PQ 24928/23 - To ask the Minister for Health if he will provide details on speech and language therapy, if he would detail in tabular form for each LHO area as of 1 May 2023 or the latest date available the number of people on the speech and language therapy initial treatment waiting list and within that the numbers waiting less than 4 months; the number waiting 4-12 months; and the number waiting more than 12 months; and if he would indicate also for each category the numbers waiting aged 0-17 years and those aged 18 and above.

- Michael Moynihan

Dear Deputy Moynihan,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (24928/23) 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 over 1.3 million patients seen by HSE primary care services, this represents a 5.5% increase on the previous year. In January to March 2023 a total of 353,670 therapy patients were seen which is an increase of 13.3% on the same period in 2022. It is worth noting that COVID-19 has posed significant challenges for many service areas in 2020, 2021 and 2022. This has resulted in an increase in those waiting.

Please find the attached appendix, which contains, in tabular form, details of the Speech and Language Therapy initial therapy waiting list in each LHO area, as at the end of April 2023 which is the latest data available at this time.

Appendix 1 – LHO Speech and Language Therapy Initial Therapy Waitlist as at the end of April 2023

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Seán McArt
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations