

Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí, Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

Seomra 243, Ospidéal Dr Steevens, Lána Steevens, Baile Átha Cliath 8. D08 W2A8.

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31st May 2023

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

PQ 25820/23 To ask the Minister for Health the number of persons on a waiting list for speech and language therapy by CHO, age category and time waiting, in tabular form.

-Róisín Shortall

Dear Deputy Shortall,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (25820/23) 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 April 2023 which is the latest data available at this time.

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

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

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Yours sincerely,

Seán McArt

General Manager Primary Care **National Community Operations**