

Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí, Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Príomhúil

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

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13th September 2023

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

PQ 39449/23 To ask the Minister for Health the number of people in each LHO area waiting for a ophthalmology appointment in primary care as of 1 September 2023 or the latest date available; the number waiting 0 to 12, 12 to 26, 26 to 52 and the number waiting more than 52 weeks.

-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 (39449/23) 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 79,974 patients seen by HSE Ophthalmology services 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 Ophthalmology waiting list in each LHO area, as at the end of July 2023 which is the latest data available at this time.

Appendix 1 – LHO Ophthalmology Waiting List as at the end of July 2023

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Seán McArt

General Manager Primary Care **National Community Operations**