



Ceann Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil  
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin  
– Cúram Sláinte Pobail

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

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13/08/2024,

Deputy Paul Murphy  
Dáil Eireann,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ ref 25266/24**

To ask the Minister for Health the reason the speech and language service in Dublin South West has been closed; and the action he is taking to address this.

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Dear Deputy Murphy,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for a response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

The Health Service Executive can confirm that, unfortunately, due to a high level of staff vacancies across the area, we are unable to offer adult Speech & Language Therapy services across various networks in Dublin South West at present. There has been an ongoing challenge in relation to the recruitment of these key posts, which was further impacted by the recent pause in recruitment. The service will continue to progress requests to fill these key roles and will progress recruitment of these posts once approval is received.

The paediatric service offers a phone drop-in clinic for advice and support while awaiting therapy. Contact details of this clinic are attached.

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

**Yours sincerely,**

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**Brian Kearney**  
Head of Primary Care  
Dublin South, Kildare & West Wicklow Community Healthcare