



Oifig Ceannasaí Oibríochtaí,
Oibríochtaí Pobail, Cúram Priomhúil

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

Office of the Head of Operations,
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27th May 2024

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

PQ 20109/24 To ask the Minister for Health his views that audiology waiting lists for a first appointment and for a review appointment are too long; his further views that there is a significant postcode lottery involved; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

-John Lahart

Dear Deputy Lahart,

The Health Service Executive (HSE) has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question (20109/24) 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 2023, a total of 56,322 Audiology patients were seen which is an increase of 5.7% compared to the 53,273 Audiology patients seen in full year 2022. In the first quarter of 2024, a total of 13,733 Audiology patients were seen which represents a 0% change compared to the 13,766 Audiology patients seen in the first quarter of 2023.

Primary Care is focused on improving access to care in order to reduce waiting times for patients. This includes monitoring the waiting list on an on-going basis in the context of available resources.

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Seán McArt
General Manager Primary Care
National Community Operations