



Limistéar Sláinte Comhtháite Bhaile Átha Cliath Chathair Theas & Thiar,
Bhaile Átha Cliath Thiar Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin
Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC2

Head of Primary Care
Dublin South City & West, Dublin South West,
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06/05/2025

Deputy Seán Crowe
Dáil Eireann,
Dublin 2.

PQ ref 18031/25 - To ask the Minister for Health if her attention has been drawn to the fact that parents have been informed that there are no speech and language or occupational therapy services available in the Ballyboden primary care centre; if her attention has been further drawn to the fact that when these parents seek to access these therapies in other HSE centres they are informed that this is not possible as they are outside the catchment area; the date by which SLT and OT will be made available in Ballyboden; the options that will be made available to patients and their parents in the interim;; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Crowe,

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 the Speech and Language Therapy service based in Ballyboden Primary Care Centre are experiencing a significant shortage of Therapy staff at present. Unfortunately, the service for both Adults and Children has been suspended temporarily, due to the inability of the service to meet the demand within its current capacity. Currently, the recruitment of two senior Speech and Language Therapists for both the paediatric and adult services is underway.

Dublin South City & West, Dublin South West Kildare & West Wicklow Integrated Healthcare Areas are working to address the impacts staff vacancies. The HSE continue to review service needs and prioritise services for recruitment in line with the HSE's Pay and Numbers strategy. Every effort will be made to improve access and reduce waiting lists for the local population in line with this strategy.

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,

Brian Kearney
Head of Primary Care
Dublin South City & West, Dublin South West, Kildare & West Wicklow Integrated Healthcare Areas, HSE Dublin & Midlands