

**Head of Service Primary Care**

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Ms Grace Boland TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

Email: grace.boland@oireachtas.ie

PQ 5247/25 – “To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth for a breakdown of the waiting lists of children awaiting their speech and language therapy assessment in CH09, in tabular form; and if she will make a statement on the matter” – Grace Boland TD

Dear Deputy Boland,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you with information in the context of the above Parliamentary Question. I examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

HSE Integrated Health Area Dublin North County (IHA DNC) and Integrated Health Area Dublin North City & West (IHA DNCW) currently note circa 7741 children awaiting a Speech and Language Therapy Assessment with Primary Care services as reflected on table below.

IHA DNC and IHA DNCW							
Primary Care Speech and Language Therapy Childrens Services							
	0 – 4 months	4 -8 months	8 – 12 months	12 – 18 months	18 -24 months	24 + months	Totals
Waiting Initial Assessment	614	617	612	685	384	153	3065
Waiting Initial Therapy	448	421	424	400	358	103	2154
Waiting Further Therapy	427	483	417	594	479	122	2522

Please be assured IHA DNC and IHA DNCW speech and language therapy services are working to improve the waiting times experienced by some children and families. Primary Care offer some services to families of children whilst they are awaiting Speech and Language services through various intervention initiatives including access to advice clinics and group interventions among other options. IHA DNC and IHA DNCW are engaged in ongoing recruitment campaigns for speech and language therapists.

I trust this information clarifies your query.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Kirwan
Acting Head of Service Primary Care
HSE Integrated Health Areas of Dublin North County and
Dublin North City & West