



Deputy Barry Ward TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.

26th August 2025

Re Ref: PQ 39548/25:

To ask the Minister for Health if HSE Occupational Therapists have stopped assisting with home adaptation applications; the reason this decision was taken; when was this decision was taken; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

Dear Deputy Ward,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Representation, which you submitted for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

HSE Dublin South does not accept referrals to Occupational Therapy for housing assessments as part of the Council housing adaptation grant process, including housing reports relating to adaptations for council tenants. This has been the case for over 5 years since May 2020, and would be a common position nationally. The service here is endeavouring to maximise the provision of direct clinical care, including to priority clinical cases, such as urgent palliative care and hospital discharge cases. This prioritisation of focus has become increasingly necessary in recent years in the context of staffing resource pressure, increasing referral demand and complexity of cases, and waiting list pressures.

Many County Councils across the country employ their own Occupational Therapists directly to carry out this work, but this is not the case in the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council (DLRCC). It is my understanding DLRCC have a list of private Occupational Therapists that they provide to applicants upon request, the cost of which is redeemable via successful grant application.

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

Yours sincerely,

Declan O'Hanlon
General Manager Dublin South, Primary Care