



Office of the Head of Primary Care
Services
Community Health Organisation
Midlands Louth Meath

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2nd May 2025

Deputy Joanna Byrne
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Re PQ 13887/25 - To ask the Minister for Health the number of children currently awaiting a first appointment for ophthalmology services in Louth; the length of time these children have been waiting for an appointment ;and if she will make a statement on the matter – Joanna Byrne

Dear Deputy Byrne

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and outlined the position as follows.

Children currently awaiting first appointment for Ophthalmology Services in Louth						
Age Category	Community Ophthalmic Physician	Optometrist Dundalk	Orthoptist Dundalk	Optometrist Drogheda	Orthoptist Drogheda	Total
0-17 years	165	17	31	23	117	353

The longest length of time these children have been waiting for a first appointment is 107 weeks.

I trust the above is in order but please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further queries in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Joseph Ruane
Head of Primary Care Services
Midlands Louth Meath Community Health Organisation